BACKS TO SCHOOL ISSUE!

MAD

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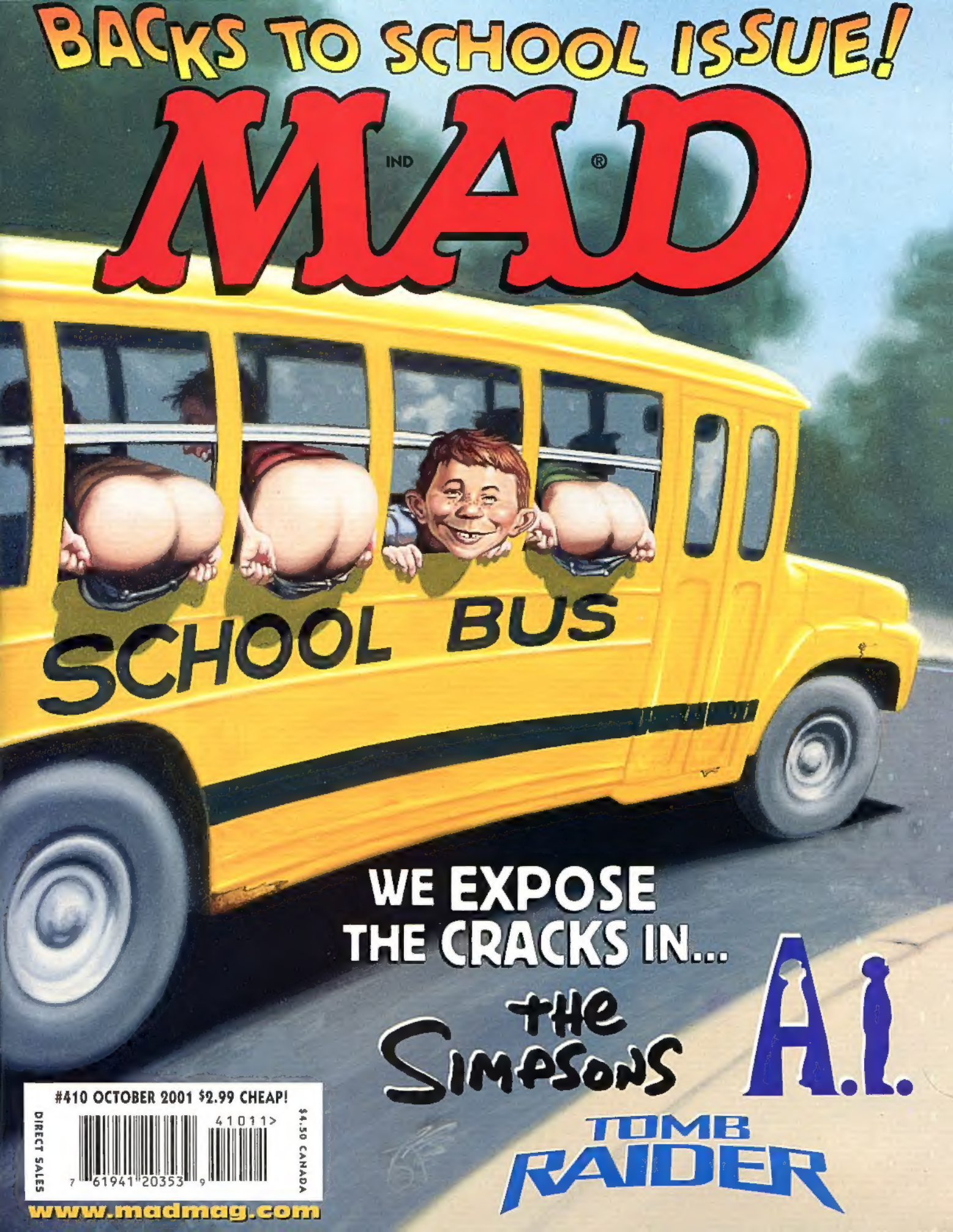

WE EXPOSE THE CRACKS IN...

THE SIMPSONS

A.I.

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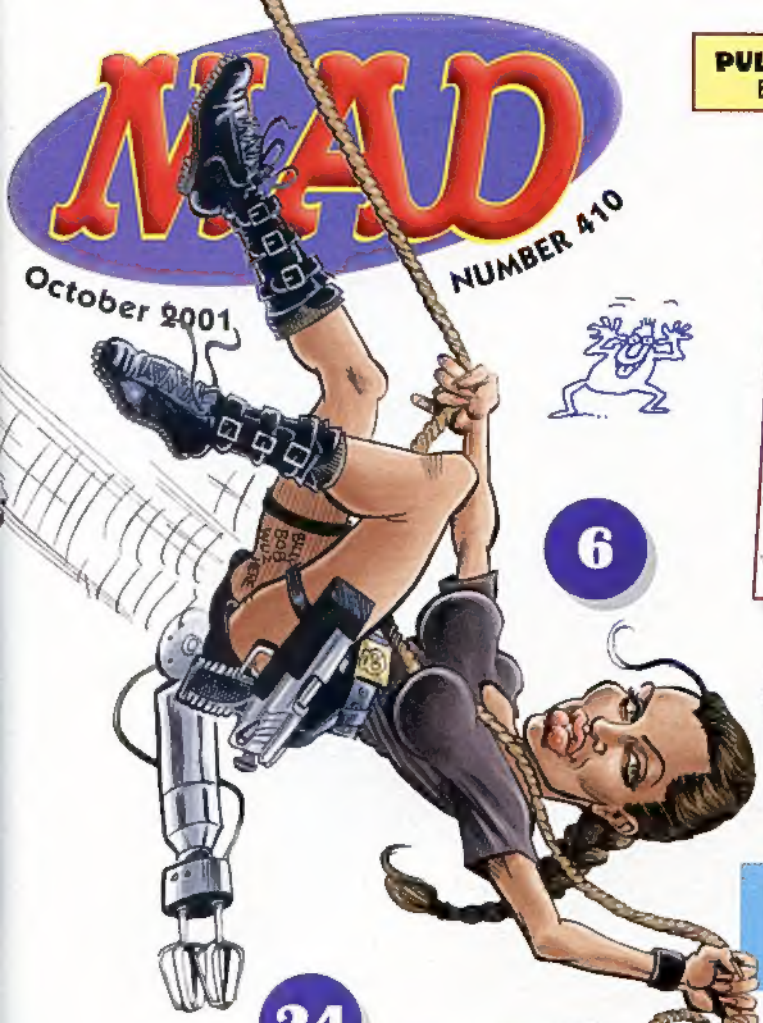
October 2001



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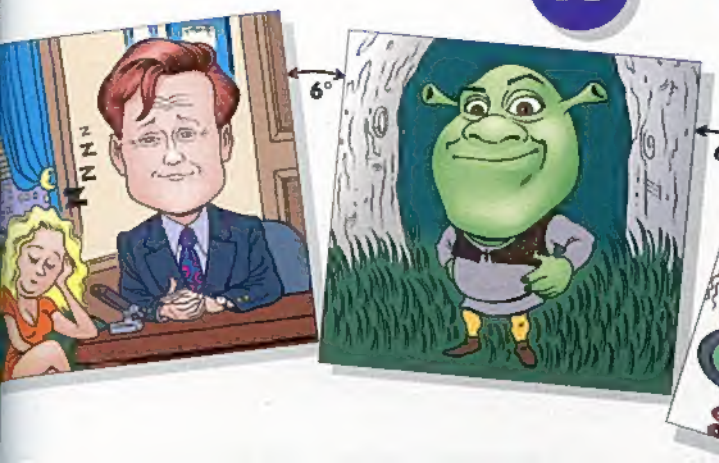


18

PULL MY CHENEY
BY TOM CHENEY

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPARTMENT:
Random Samplings of Reader Mail.....4

DULL & VOIGHT DEPARTMENT:
"Lotta Crotch: Bazoom Raider"
(A MAD Movie Satire).....6

WHEN BEAST MEETS JEST DEPARTMENT:
Only a True PETA Nut.....12

GOING AGAINST THE GROENING DEPARTMENT:
The Simpsons By the Numbers.....14

THE DISSING LINK DEPARTMENT:
6 Degrees of Separation Between
Anyone And Anything Part VI.....18

ANGSTER'S PARADISE DEPARTMENT:
Monroe &...The Great
American Road Trip Part II.....20

RETIREMENT HOMIES DEPARTMENT:
10 Signs That Your Neighborhood Gang
is Getting Old.....24

REJECTILE DYSFUNCTION DEPARTMENT:
A Man's Guide to How Long Before
You'll "Get Any".....26

MORE

MAD

MORE DEPARTMENTS

MODERN AD-UCATION DEPARTMENT:
When Corporate Sponsorship of Public Schools Goes Too Far!.....**28**

SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPARTMENT:
A MAD Look at Priests, Ministers, Rabbis & a Few Scoundrels.....**32**

BULLISTIC MISSIVES DEPARTMENT:
Student Excuse Notes for the 21st Century.....**36**

BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPARTMENT:
The Lighter Side of.....**39**

PETER PARKER PICKED A PACK OF PECULIAR PEOPLE DEPARTMENT:
The *Spiderman* Movie: Fun Family Fare or Scientology Propaganda!.....**40**

GRIEVING LAS VEGAS DEPARTMENT:
MAD's Celebrity Cause-of-Death Betting Odds.....**43**

JOKE AND DAGGER DEPARTMENT:
Spy Vs. Spy.....**44**

EDIBLE COMPLEX DEPARTMENT:
Lunch-Packing Mom Profiles.....**46**

THE FAMILY CIRCUITS DEPARTMENT:
"A.I. Absolute Idiocy" (Another MAD Movie Satire).....**48**

MARGINAL THINKING DEPARTMENT:
"Drawn Out Dramas".....**Various Places**
by Sergio Aragones **Around the Magazine**

28

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

1978 Satan gives Kenny G his first saxophone

1491 Poets pressure Columbus not to sail the ocean blue until next year

1973 Study shows eyes not really windows to anything

1984 Donny and Marie Osmond divorce

1938 Popularity of bowling soars when bow and arrow is replaced by ball

48

"Every dog has its day— but that day still consists largely of sniffing butts!"

FRONT COVER ARTIST:
JAMES BENNETT

Real
Ad

HOW TO REACH US

Please Address Correspondence To: MAD, Dept. 410, 1700 Broadway, New York, New York 10019. MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope! MAD doesn't read faxed submissions!

ALFRED E. NEUMAN LOOK-ALIKE CONTEST

Back in MAD #338 we ran an article entitled "You're a Winner and a Loser," and there is no better example of being a winner *and* a loser than when you claim first and second prizes in the Toyota Comedy Festival's Alfred E. Neuman look-a-like contest, held at the World Trade Center in New York City this past June! The contest attracted an eclectic grouping from all humanity. The "lucky" first place winner was Mike McKenney of Palermo, ME and the runner-up was Mary Senzamici of the Bronx, NY. Congrats to all who participated in the contest and didn't win!

Winner Mike McKenney and runner-up Mary Senzamici congregate around their lifeguard in their genetic pool

Anxious Alfred E. Neuman contestants strut their stuff for the judges

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

As I'm writing to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*, a tear runs down my face because I'm writing from the heart. My dumb wish is that Alfred E. Neuman would come to my house. Every month I see him on the cover of MAD with that same grin on his face. I look up to him, he is my idol, and if I could meet him, it would be the happiest moment of my life.

Mark Colbenson, Boulder, CO

Marky Mark — As you know, it is the sole and supreme mission of the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* to bring joy, happiness and fulfillment to a wisher's life. Sadly, after reading your letter, we find that we will not be able to bring joy, happiness and fulfillment to your life until such time that you get one! If it's any consolation to you, after our tireless staff read your letter, tears were running down *our* faces — from gleeful, mocking laughter! Your interest in the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* is greatly appreciated. Thanks for writing! —Ed.

GEEK LITERATURE PART DEUX

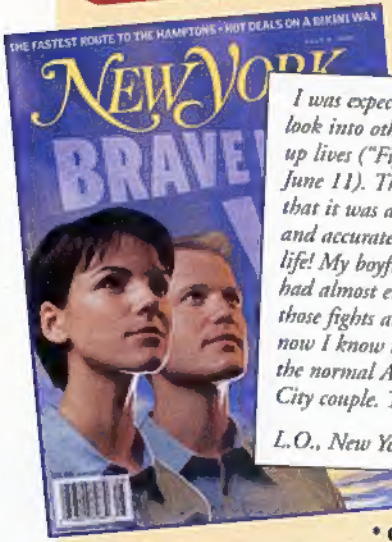
Like Dr. Scott Miller, author of a letter in your latest issue ("Geek Literature," MAD #407), I am a fancier of both classical literature and your enlightening publication. With equal delight and enthusiasm, I have read large portions of the *Iliad* in my high school Greek classes and remind Dr. Miller that Hecuba was Hector's mother, *not* his wife (Andromache). So, to the many MAD readers who recoiled at this published blunder, rest assured that there will always be the vigilant among us ready to assure MAD's commitment to representing the truth!

Mark Meany, M.D., Hagerstown, MD

Dr. Marky Mark — Being a letter fancier, we reviewed yours with much interest and only one question remains: WHO THE HECTOR CARES?? We thought old Mark Colbenson, who asked the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* to send Alfred E. Neuman to his house didn't have a life. Boy, were we wrong! Compared to you, Mark C. is a 24/7 party animal — he would sit at the right hand of Dionysus, famed mythical character who slept with his mother and then flew too close to the sun, only to rise up again from the ashes as a swan. Thanks for writing, Greek boy! —Ed. Son of Agun, the God of the Letters Page.

THE ANSWER MAD

Yes! We're back with the latest installment of our ever-popular feature where we take letters written to other magazines and write our own unique responses! This month features a missive from *New York* magazine's July 9, 2001 issue:



I was expecting an interesting look into other couples' screwed-up lives ("Fights and the City" June 11). The reality of it was that it was a truthful, funny and accurate look into my own life! My boyfriend and I have had almost every single one of those fights at least once, but now I know that we are just the normal Average New York City couple. Thank God!

L.O., New York, NY

L.O.: So you think you are a normal couple? Here are things that *real* New York City couples fight about:

- **Which one of you will get out of bed at 2 am to scream at two drunks hanging outside of your door to shut the #@%$ up?**
- **That thing on your shoe, is it from a dog or a human?**
- **Which should we rent, *Shakespeare In Love* or *Coeds Who Want It Bad VI*?**
- **In the hamper or on the floor — what's the difference?**
- **Giuliani — Goon or God?**
- ***The Full Monty* — "let's go" or "$180 to watch a bunch of naked guys dancing on a stage?"**
- **Guy in the subway car — just sleeping or dead?**
- **Farting in bed — Nothing freakin' wrong with it or disgusting?**

FAX MAD AT (212) 506-4848!

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MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS

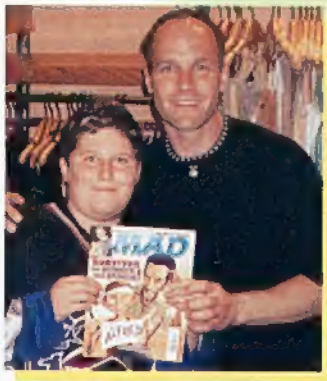
Well lookee here! Two lucky MAD readers have just been voted three-year subscriptions. The Ed. has spoken!

Survivor 2 winner Tina Wesson and Thierrion

I heard yer whinin' a couple issues back when a reader had their picture taken with Richard Hatch. You guys want female Survivors? Ask and ye shall receive. I got one picture with Tina and one with Kimmi (mmmmm...) It didn't occur to me until just now to get a shot of both of them together (in which case I would've gotten a lifetime subscription, right?) Tina wanted to know if SHE would get a subscription as well. I gently reminded her that with the million dollars she won, she could buy much softer toilet paper. Which reminds me...I'm on a budget, so whaddaya say you start that subscription pronto?

Thierrion and Kimmi Kappenberg

Thierrion Kagan, West Hollywood, CA



Griffin Littell and Michael Skupin

I got this picture with Michael Skupin from *Survivor 2* at the Third Street promenade in Santa Monica, CA. He was with his wife who was shopping for a dress for an awards show. He was really nice and I have wanted a subscription to MAD, but never had time to send it!

Griffin Littell, Santa Monica, CA

MAD MUMBLINGS @madmag.com

Mousepads taste like sponge cake, but only when I say! —*Goodbick*... the secret is in the sauce —*Ronaldo* ...What's the proper burial for a Hershey's Bar? —*JQ*...I got lost between the Lost Pages of MAD once —*LilSmurf89*...Why does a dog stick its head out of the window in a car, but it hates it when you blow in its face? —*Hockeefann*...I wish I could live in a fairy tale, but I already do — *FREEfall72*...You know what feels good? Sitting in a spa while goldfish suck on your toes —*NoRules487*.

MAD CEMETERY SNAPS

We are proud, but somewhat hesitant, to introduce a new feature to our humble Letters Page. A sister to our hugely popular Celebrity Snaps feature, it's a little something we like to call Cemetery Snaps! Here's how it works: send us a photo of you with a copy of MAD standing next to the tombstone (or plaque if they've been cremated) of a famous person. The name of the person and the date of birth and death must be clearly legible. Tightly cropped shots are preferred. If we run your picture, we'll send you a one-year sub. However, if the person whose grave it is is featured in the issue you're holding, we'll cough it up to three years! So all you ghoulish geeks, here's your chance to score big and show disrespect to our dearly departed. Enjoy!

MAD

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the usual gang of idiots

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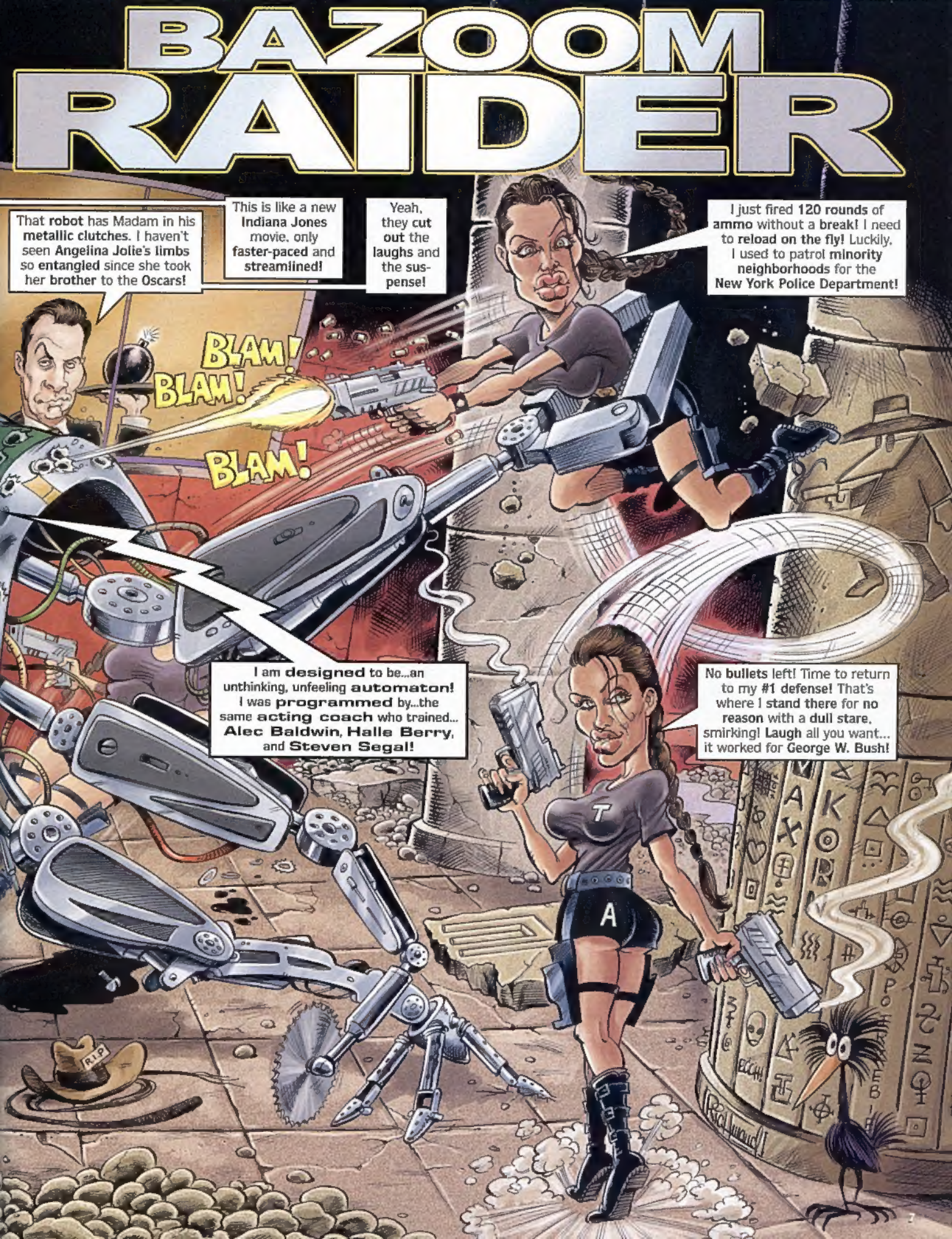
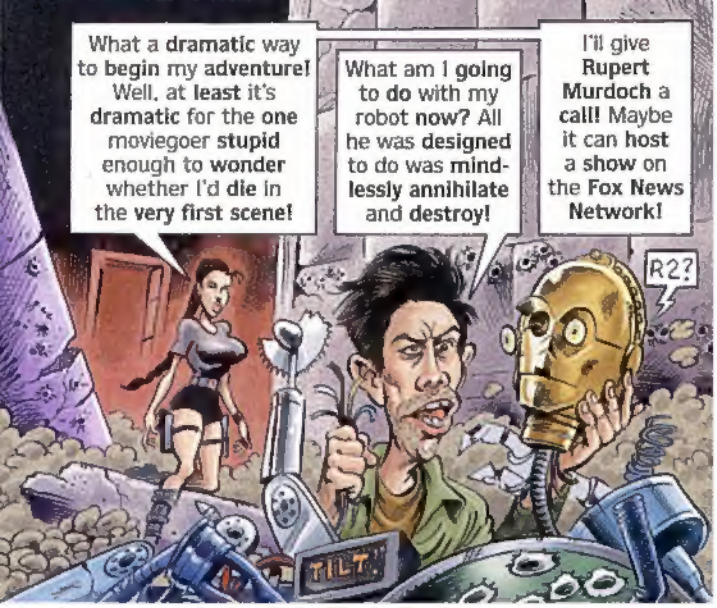
LOTTA CROTCH

The "Tomb Raider" video games were a hit for four reasons: sex, violence, sex and sex! They've been so popular with drooling cyberpervs that it was only a matter of time before tinseltown came a-calling! Lots of actresses were considered for the part of the young female adventurer, but when Angelina Jolie tried on the familiar two-sizes-too-small T-shirt and ultra short shorts worn by the heroine, the producers knew they had found...

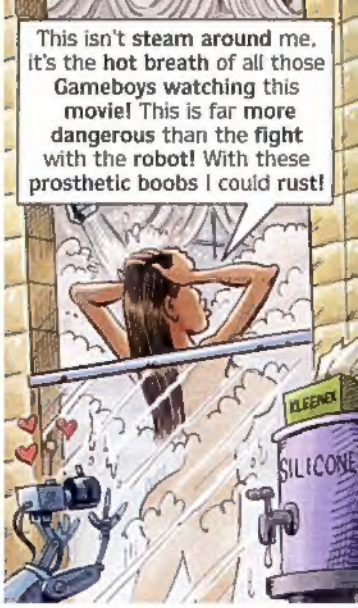
My idea of fun is suspending myself upside down from an 80-foot rope with knives and weapons strapped to my thighs, waiting to be attacked! I got the idea during my honeymoon with Billy Bob Thornton and his slingblade!
BANG
I'm an Erector set...with attitude! Nothing must harm this tomb! I am programmed...to defend the integrity of this tomb within the Lord Crotch manor... at all costs! Even if it means smashing it...into a million billion pieces!
What was I thinking? My cyber-robot guard almost decapitated my boss! Oh well, I could always land an assistant's job working for David Spade!
Hey, this would make a good middle name!
MMAD
UNLEADED ONLY
12:00
MILK EGGS BUTTER
it fell inside
ARTHUR

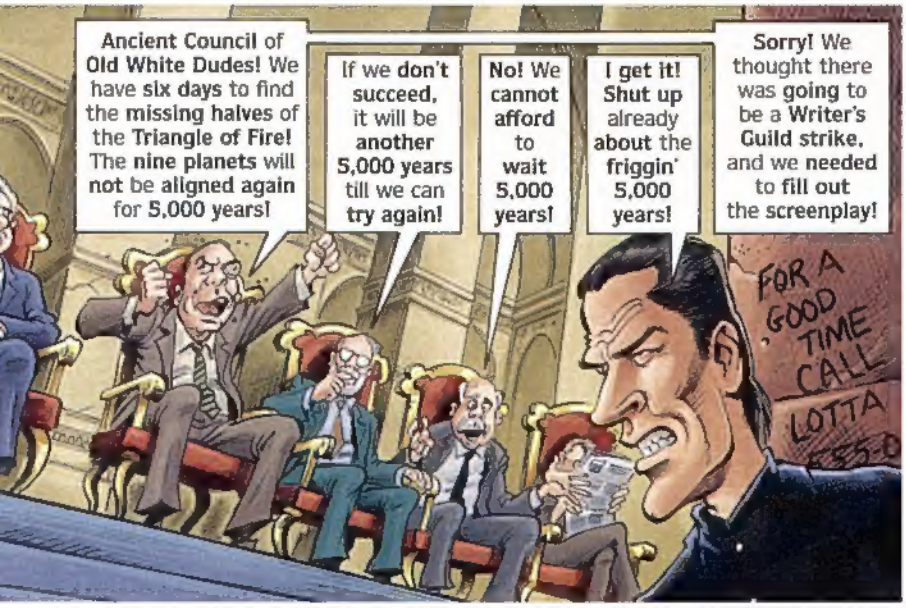
ARTIST: TOM RICHMOND WRITER: DESMOND DEVLIN

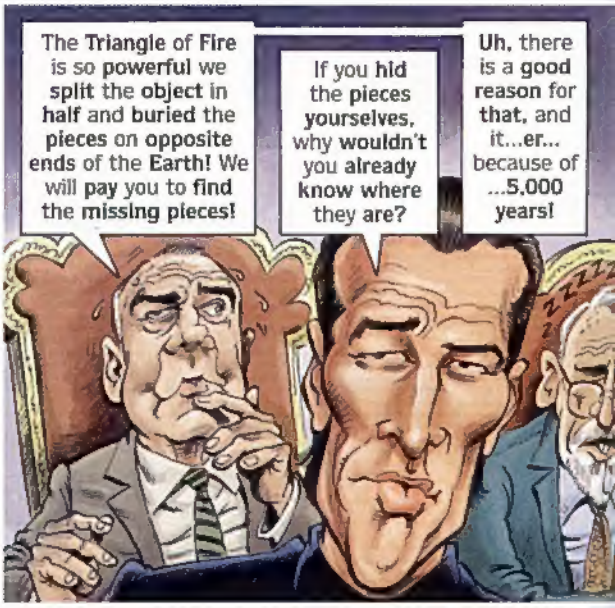

BAZOOM RAIDER
That robot has Madam in his metallic clutches. I haven't seen Angelina Jolie's limbs so entangled since she took her brother to the Oscars!
This is like a new Indiana Jones movie, only faster-paced and streamlined!
Yeah, they cut out the laughs and the suspense!
I just fired 120 rounds of ammo without a break! I need to reload on the fly! Luckily, I used to patrol minority neighborhoods for the New York Police Department!
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
I am designed to be...an unthinking, unfeeling automaton! I was programmed by...the same acting coach who trained... Alec Baldwin, Halle Berry, and Steven Segal!
No bullets left! Time to return to my #1 defense! That's where I stand there for no reason with a dull stare, smirking! Laugh all you want... it worked for George W. Bush!
R.I.P.
Rick Lundy


What a dramatic way to begin my adventure! Well, at least it's dramatic for the one moviegoer stupid enough to wonder whether I'd die in the very first scene!
What am I going to do with my robot now? All he was designed to do was mindlessly annihilate and destroy!
I'll give Rupert Murdoch a call! Maybe it can host a show on the Fox News Network!
R2?
TILT!

I miss my father!
I love transistors!
Pip pip! Veddy good!
Okay, that's more than enough character development! Let's get on with the rest of the movie!

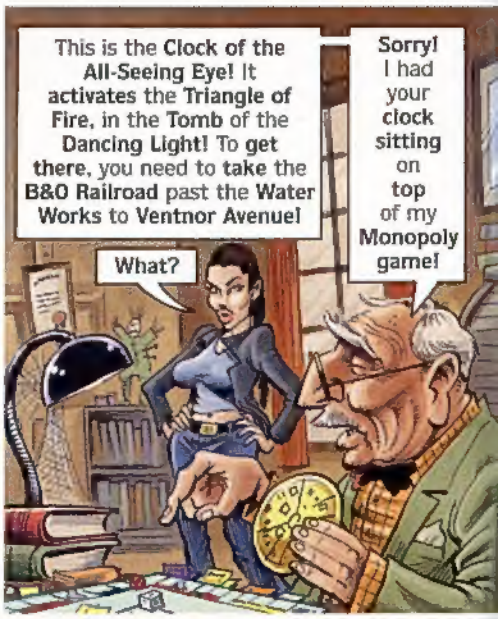

This isn't steam around me, it's the hot breath of all those Gameboys watching this movie! This is far more dangerous than the fight with the robot! With these prosthetic boobs I could rust!
KLEENEX
SILICONE

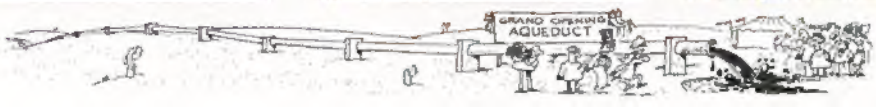

Ancient Council of Old White Dudes! We have six days to find the missing halves of the Triangle of Fire! The nine planets will not be aligned again for 5,000 years!
If we don't succeed, it will be another 5,000 years till we can try again!
No! We cannot afford to wait 5,000 years!
I get it! Shut up already about the friggin' 5,000 years!
Sorry! We thought there was going to be a Writer's Guild strike, and we needed to fill out the screenplay!
FOR A GOOD TIME CALL LOTTA


The Triangle of Fire is so powerful we split the object in half and buried the pieces on opposite ends of the Earth! We will pay you to find the missing pieces!
If you hid the pieces yourselves, why wouldn't you already know where they are?
Uh, there is a good reason for that, and it...er... because of ...5,000 years!
Zzzzz

Lotta, one day you will be famous for raiding tombs! But for now, keep this gold pocket watch!
Is this so I can always remember my mother?
Your mother? Screw her! The watch is a cheap excuse for you to go back and fight the bad guy at the end! Besides tombs, we also steal from *Pulp Fiction*!

I gotta get my ears checked! In a dead sleep, I can hear a clock ticking downstairs, through an oak door, inside a crate! But in the first scene, I couldn't hear a 25-foot robot behind me until the last second!
DO NOT OPEN UNTIL APOCALYPSE


This is the Clock of the All-Seeing Eye! It activates the Triangle of Fire, in the Tomb of the Dancing Light! To get there, you need to take the B&O Railroad past the Water Works to Ventnor Avenue!
What?
Sorry! I had your clock sitting on top of my Monopoly game!


GRAND OPENING
AQUEDUCT

Uh oh! My laser-controlled infra-red motion detector grid says we have company! Bugger! If only I had left the magical clock crated up nobody would have known it was there, and the 5,000-year deadline would have passed! Compared with that coincidence, dodging hundreds of bullets is a cinch!

What she doesn't know is we're missing on purpose! Double D breasts + bungee cord = $200 million at the box office!

This scene reminds me of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*!

Except this movie should be called "Bouncing Boobies, Rotten Accent"!

BLAM BLAM

BLAM

RATTATATTA

BLAM BLAM

BLA

The handwriting is from my father, who died in 1986! He must have made arrangements to have this letter delivered today!

Not really! He just licked a stamp and mailed it 15 years ago! After all, we are the Postal Service!

PROPERTY OF BILLY BOB

MAH

Lotta! I knew you'd solve mi dopey mind teaser! Fly to Cambodia and destroy the clock! Why I didn't just destroy it 15 years ago when I had it myself, I can't say! And neither can anyone connected with this movie!

Here it is, just as Father said! The Jasmine flower that marks the tomb's secret entrance! It was easy to find! Flowers always grow where the B.S. is piled the highest!

SECRET ENTRANCE

THIS WAY TO HIDDEN TOMB

I've never seen such damage done to our nation's treasures! And that includes being bombed during the Vietnam War!

Well, somebody's got to say it eventually, so I'll just say it! Nice guns!

You can't stop me! I learned how to tomb raid from the very best! Anna Nicole Smith!

BOOM!

The stone monkey statues are coming to life! Do you think they'll kill us?

Not us! They have a score to settle first, with all those pigeons!

What kind of dumb battle is this? One love tap and they break into dust!

I haven't seen something crumble so fast since the XFL folded!

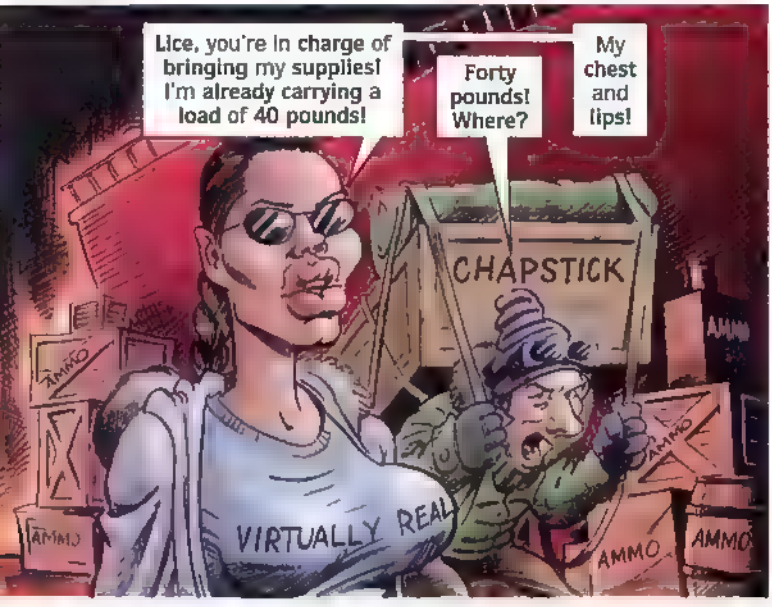
FLICK

Bugger! This is the 50th architectural treasure I've helped wreck this year! But that's okay! Instead of crating all this stuff, it's a lot easier to ship priceless relics overseas to museums inside 15,000 little envelopes!

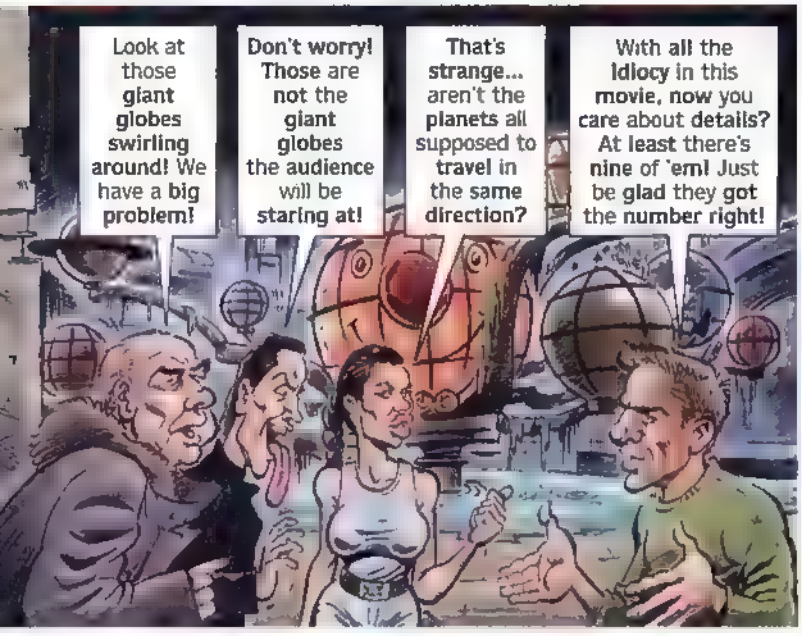
BOOM

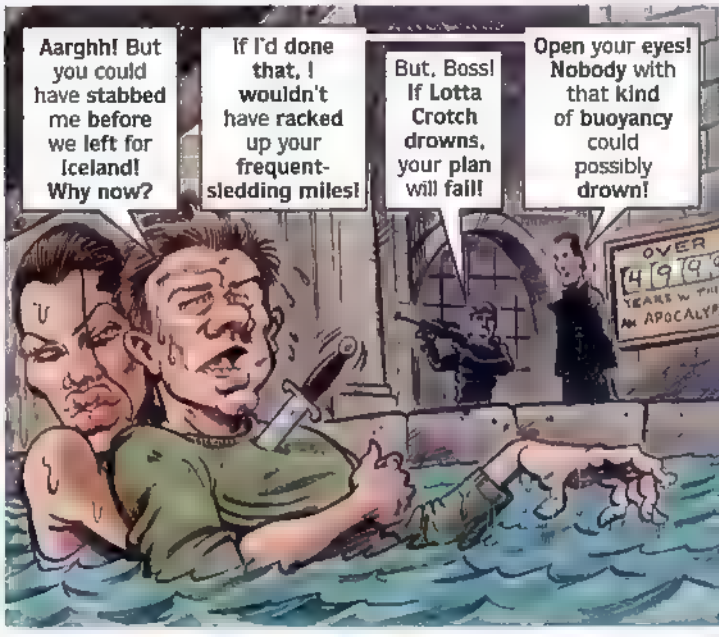
Give it up, Lotta! You're all alone on this waterfall!
Not exactly!
I didn't kill my wife!
I don't care!

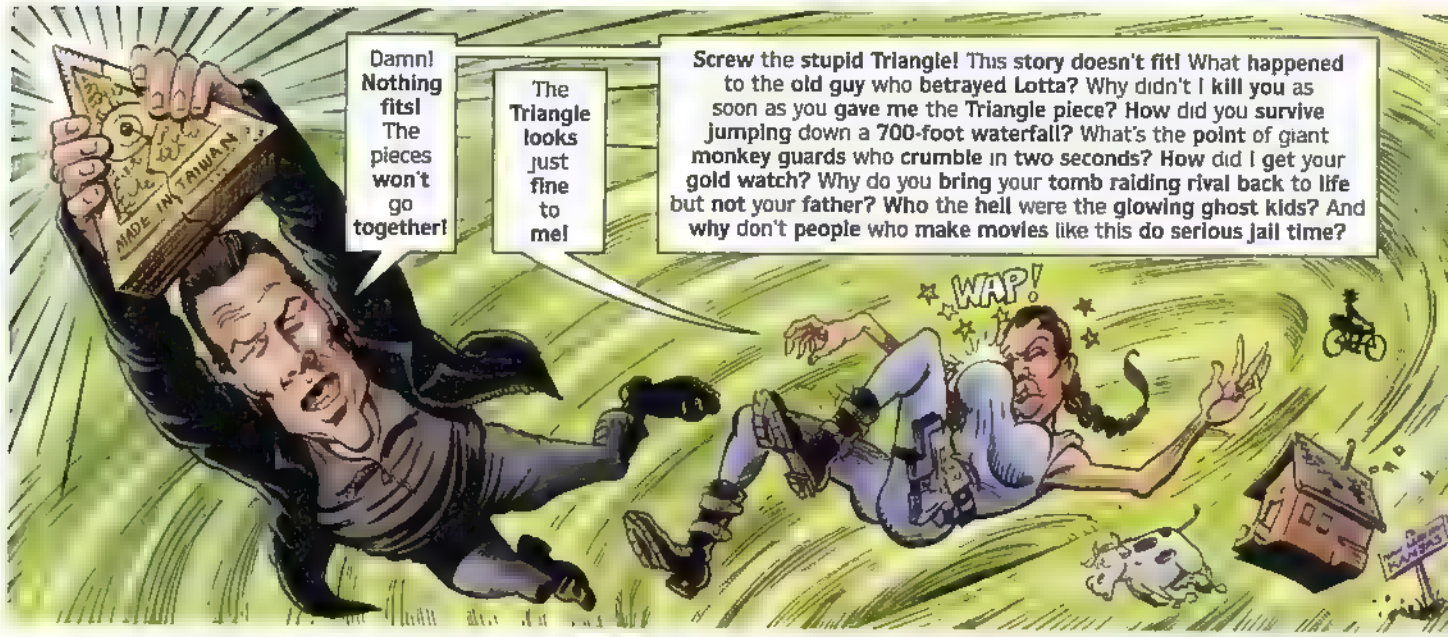
The men who hired me are greedy for ultimate power, so they can control the world!
Who are they? Illuminati? The Secret Order of Masons?
No! Much worse than that... Microsoft!


Lice, you're in charge of bringing my supplies! I'm already carrying a load of 40 pounds!
Forty pounds! Where?
My chest and lips!
CHAPSTICK
VIRTUALLY REAL
AMMO

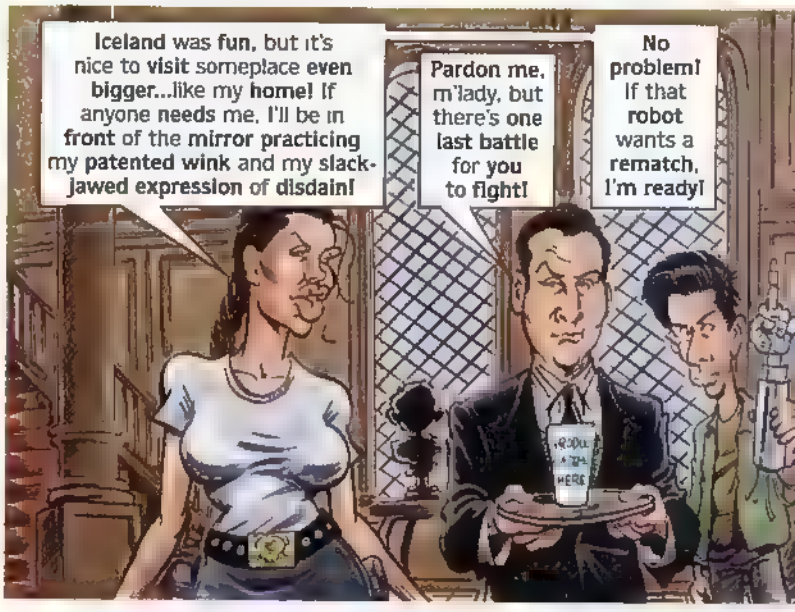
Lady Crotch, do you really want to dogsled across this frozen territory in an open jacket?
Remember on page four of this spoof when they said: "breasts + bungee cords = $200 million at the box office"? Well, nipples + Iceland = $300 million box office!

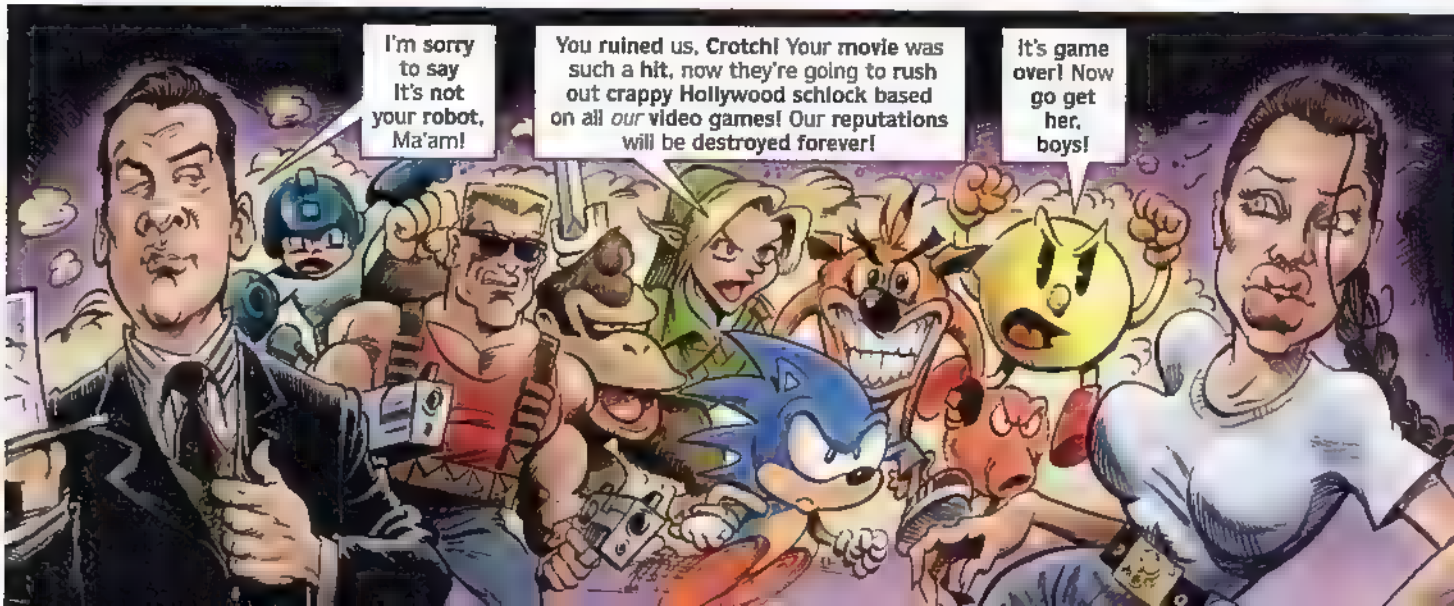

Look at those giant globes swirling around! We have a big problem!
Don't worry! Those are not the giant globes the audience will be staring at!
That's strange... aren't the planets all supposed to travel in the same direction?
With all the idiocy in this movie, now you care about details? At least there's nine of 'em! Just be glad they got the number right!


Aarghh! But you could have stabbed me before we left for Iceland! Why now?
If I'd done that, I wouldn't have racked up your frequent-sledding miles!
But, Boss! If Lotta Crotch drowns, your plan will fail!
Open your eyes! Nobody with that kind of buoyancy could possibly drown!


Damn! Nothing fits! The pieces won't go together!
The Triangle looks just fine to me!
Screw the stupid Triangle! This story doesn't fit! What happened to the old guy who betrayed Lotta? Why didn't I kill you as soon as you gave me the Triangle piece? How did you survive jumping down a 700-foot waterfall? What's the point of giant monkey guards who crumble in two seconds? How did I get your gold watch? Why do you bring your tomb raiding rival back to life but not your father? Who the hell were the glowing ghost kids? And why don't people who make movies like this do serious jail time?
MADE IN TAIWAN
WAP!

My beloved daughter! If only we could live in the past forever!
Yeah, back when we were both legitimate Oscar-winning actors, instead of starring in this hokey drivel!


Iceland was fun, but it's nice to visit someplace even bigger...like my home! If anyone needs me, I'll be in front of the mirror practicing my patented wink and my slack-jawed expression of disdain!
Pardon me, m'lady, but there's one last battle for you to fight!
No problem! If that robot wants a rematch, I'm ready!


I'm sorry to say It's not your robot, Ma'am!
You ruined us, Crotch! Your movie was such a hit, now they're going to rush out crappy Hollywood schlock based on all *our* video games! Our reputations will be destroyed forever!
It's game over! Now go get her, boys!

ONLY A

Don't get us wrong, we here at MAD love animals. Animal *lovers*, on the other hand, frequently piss us off. Should we really shed a tear for the executed rat on *Survivor*? Must we feel intense guilt at the mere purchase of a ham sandwich? Should we really be concerned about the rights and living conditions of laboratory paramecia? Pardon us, we don't mean to beat a dead horse (so to speak!), but some wildlife fanciers at People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) just take things too far. For example...

...would describe disrupting a night crawler hunt as a noble step towards "bait rights."

...will fret more about the dairy cow that produced the milk than the missing ten-year-old pictured on the carton.

...would handcuff himself to a doomed heifer.

...would care for a freed lab animal that's trying to quit.

ARTIST AND WRITER: JOHN CALDWELL

TRUE PETA NUT...

...pickets the set of the latest *Star Wars* sequel until he's convinced that no computer-generated alien wildlife was harmed during the production.

...will stay up for three straight days to draft a "Bill of Rights" for clams.

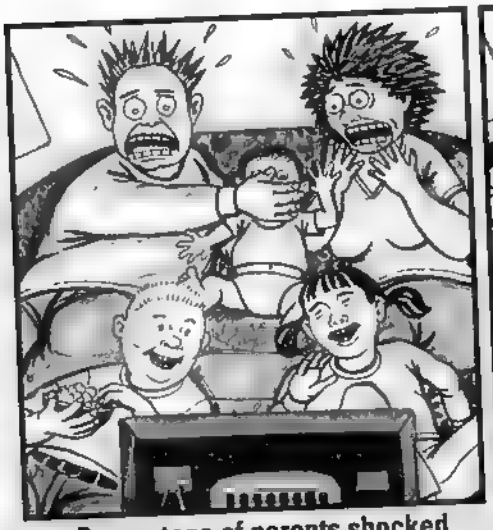
...will try to reason with a mosquito.

...wills his body to wildlife nutrition.

...fires off a stream of angry e-mails to his congressman upon the discovery that they're using roaches to test roach poison.

When a TV show has been on as long as *The Simpsons*, you figure it has achieved certain things. Like *Frasier*, you figure it has a closet full of Emmy awards. But it doesn't. Like *All in the Family*, you figure it has fathered lots of spin-off series featuring characters from the show. But it hasn't. Like *Friends*, you figure the cast regulars must now be making humongous salaries. But they're not! So what can you figure about *The Simpsons*? Only the statistics we've compiled in...

THE



Percentage of parents shocked and outraged by Bart when the show debuted in 1989:

43%

Percentage shocked now, in the era of *Tom Green*, *South Park* and MTV's *Jackass*:

0.0034%

Former *Simpsons* animators rejected by *South Park* for drawing too well:

2,913

Number of *Simpsons* writers who went on to bigger and better things (counting Conan O'Brien): **0%**

Viewers converted to Christianity by Ned Flanders:

2

Viewers converted to alcoholism by Homer, Barney and Moe:

42,739

SIMPSONS BY THE NUMBERS

ARTIST: JAMES WARHOLA WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

Total value of all the Harvard educations wasted on eventual members of *Simpsons* writing staff:

$2.63 billion

Sappy episodes that show Bart's "heart of gold" ordered up by scared network execs with a stack of complaint letters from three Fundamentalists in Iowa:

14

Number of real-life kids imitating Bart's prank phone calls to Moe's Tavern...

...before the advent of CALLER I.D.:

2,430,623

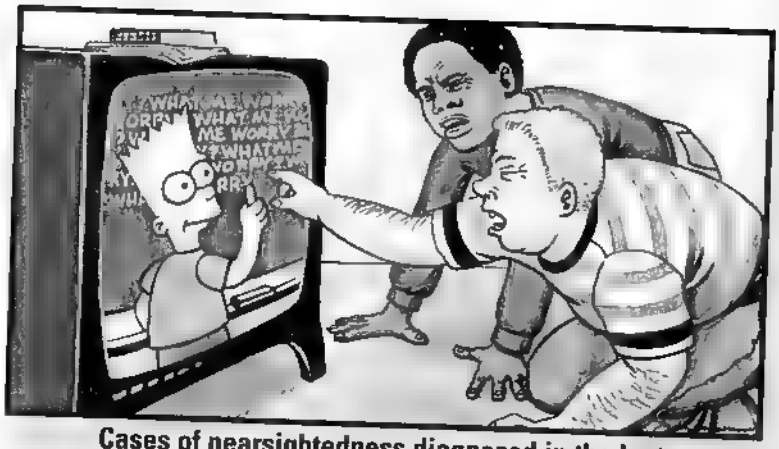
...after the advent of CALLER I.D.:

3

"Bumbling Homer-at-work" episodes that overexaggerate the dangers of nuclear power plants: **0**

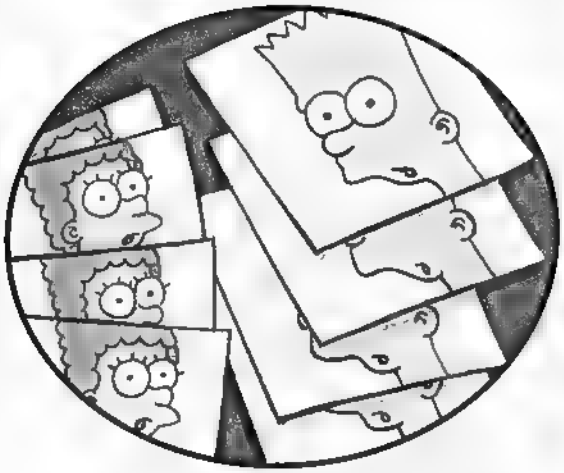
Difference, in level of annoyance, between *Simpsons* fanatics who've memorized every episode and Trekkies: **0**

THE SIMPSONS
BY THE NUMBERS



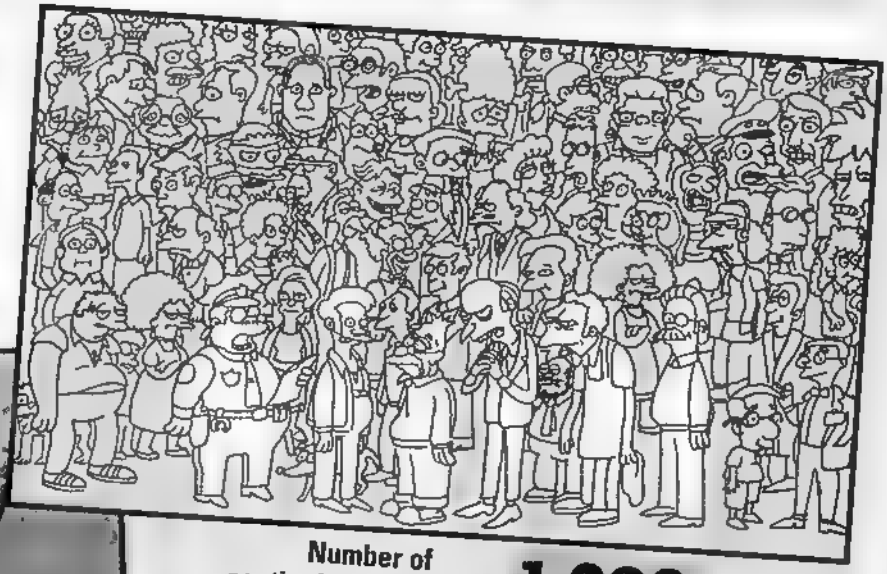
Cases of nearsightedness diagnosed in the last 12 years directly attributable to squinting at all the tiny background gags in *The Simpsons*:

13,498,280



Amount saved by inserting three or four blank stares per episode — just to cut down on the number of different animation cels needed:

$5.2 million

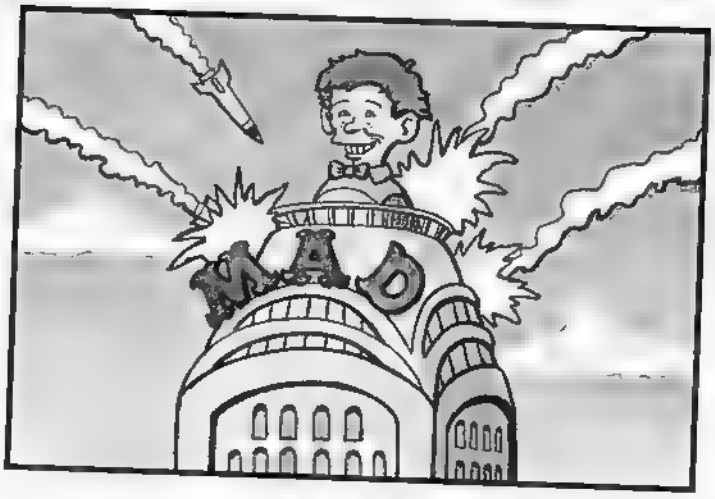


Number of continuing characters: **1,026**

Number of continuing characters worth remembering: **6**

Year that a pudgy, middle-aged Ben Affleck and Kate Hudson will play Homer and Marge in the live-action movie of *The Simpsons*:

2023



Satirical swipes at *MAD*: **42**

Deserved satirical swipes at *MAD*: **42**

Real
Ad

THE DISSING LINK DEPT.

In the words of some Hollywood executive, "You can never have too many sequels!" So here is another installment of our rip-off game of "6 Degrees of Kevin Bacon." And what's the best thing about our little game? You don't need that annoying Kevin Bacon to play it! Here's...

6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION

Can you link GOLF to SHREK?

Golf
is just an excuse for married guys to get away from their wives, as is...
Business Travel
which is a popular reason to buy a Laptop, as is...
Cybersex
WOW!

Can you link THE ROLLING STONES to CHARLIE SHEEN?

Can you link OSAMA BIN LADEN to CAMRYN MANHEIM'S THIGHS?

Can you link COCKFIGHTS to AOL?

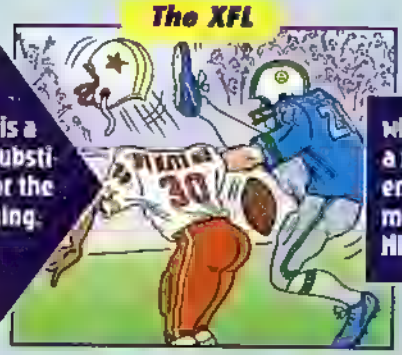
ARTIST: RICK TULKA

BETWEEN ANYONE AND ANYTHING

PART VI

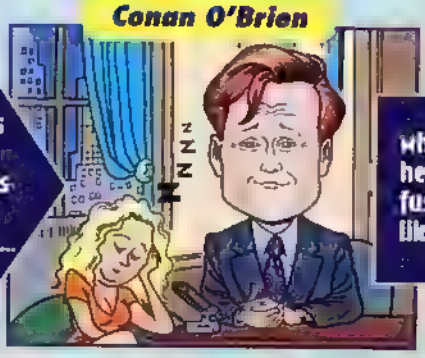
The XFL

which is a poor substitute for the real thing, like...



which was a major embarrassment for HBO, as is...

Conan O'Brien

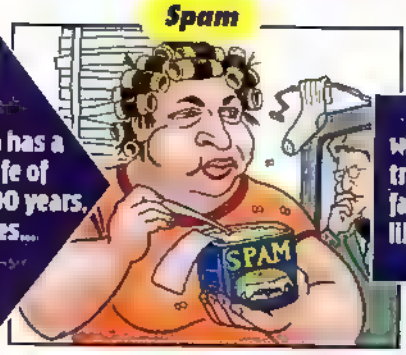


who's a big headed doofus the kids like, as is...

Shrek

Spam

which has a half-life of 10,000 years, as does...

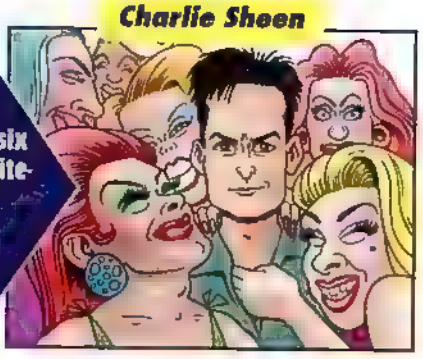


which is a trailer-trash favorite, like...

The Jerry Springer Show

which averages six Transvestite-hookers a week, as does...

Charlie Sheen



Montezuma's Revenge

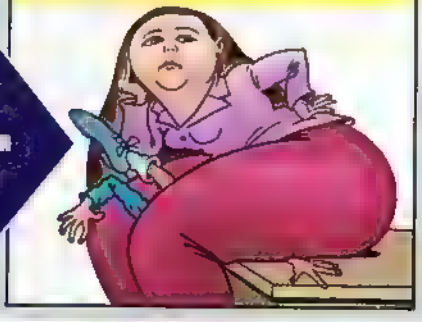
who is a big pain in the ass, as is...

which can't be stopped once it's started, like...

An Avalanche

which can crush a man within seconds, as can...

Camryn Manheim's Thighs



Laura Schlessinger

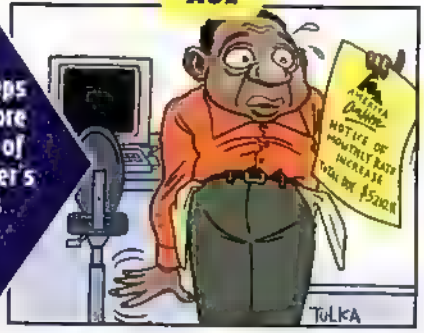
who played a doctor on TV, as did...

who disapproves of everyone and everything, as does...

Organized Religion

which keeps taking more and more of its member's money, as does...

AOL



WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

Like the early pioneers, our hero continues to weave his way ever west. And like them, his butt is starting to get really sore. Saddle up, it's...

MONROE and...

WELL, I SAY IT'S FALSE ADVERTISING!
YOUR FATHER'S RIGHT. WE JUST DROVE EIGHTY MILES OUT OF THE WAY TO VISIT THE WORLD'S LARGEST DRUG EMPORIUM.
THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT WALL DRUGS DRIVE SAFELY
WALL DRUGS
BILL WRAY
AND WOULD THEY FILL MY LEGITIMATE-LOOKING PRESCRIPTION? NOOOO! THEY HAD TO "CHECK IT FIRST." WHAT A BUNCH OF KILLJOYS!
I THOUGHT IT WAS GREAT. I GOT THIS COOL REPLICA OF WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE, AND LOOK, IT'S MADE OF STUFFED SQUIRRELS!
OH YEAH? EXPLAIN HOW THAT'S BETTER THAN A HANDFUL OF DARVON!
LAST I CHECKED, A DEAD SQUIRREL DID DAMN LITTLE TO KILL THE PAIN OF BEING ALIVE!
I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD. I THINK THERE WAS SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY CHICKEN FRIED EGG SALAD SANDWICH!
WELL, MY CHICKEN FRIED SPAGHETTI WAS JUST FINE!
I SAVED HALF OF MY CHICKEN FRIED SALAD, YOU WANT THAT?
NO THANKS! UGH! CAN YOU PULL THE CAR OVER? I'M GONNA HURL!
FORGET IT! MAKING GREAT TIME! HERE, USE THIS BAG!
BLECHH
HUH? WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHERE ARE WE?
NOTHING. YOU JUST SLEPT THROUGH LUNCH.
WHERE ARE WE NOW?
I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE ONLY A THEME PARK DEDICATED TO THE GREATEST SINGER OF ALL TIME!
Dolly Wood
PARKING LOT
WHOA, JESSICA SIMPSON HAS A THEME PARK?
NO, NUMBSKULL. IT'S DOLLYWOOD. IT'S ALL ABOUT DOLLY PARTON!
DOLLYWOOD
DOLLY WHO?
WHO?? NEVER MIND, ALL YOU GOTTA KNOW IS THEY GOT THE WORLD'S LARGEST DOUBLE-HILL ROLLERCOASTER—THE TWO BIGGEST MOUNTAINS IN THE USA!
DOLLY'S BIG DOUBLE SMOKEY

ARTIST: BILL WRAY WRITER: ANTHONY BARBIERI

THE GREAT AMERICAN ROAD TRIP

PART TWO

SO, ARE WE EVER GONNA EAT ON THIS TRIP?
FINE. GRAB A COUPLE BUCKS OUTTA GRANDPA'S WALLET WHILE HE'S ASLEEP! WE'LL STOP HERE.
TONY'S DINER
HERE? COME ON, WE PASSED LIKE SEVENTY FAST FOOD PLACES WITH NAMES I'VE HEARD OF AND WE'RE STOPPING AT THIS DUMP?
EXACTLY! THE GREAT AMERICAN ROADSIDE GREASY SPOON! LIKE, THIS IS A DYING BREED.
I KNOW. I CAN SMELL THE CORPSE FROM HERE!
DAMN. SO WHY DIDN'T YOU WAKE ME?
WE WERE ALL PRETTY SURE YOU WERE DEAD. NOW QUIT YOUR COMPLAINING. MONROE BROUGHT YOU A DOGGIE BAG!
IS THAT CHICKEN FRIED STEW IN THAT BAG? IT SMELLS GOOD!
NO GRANDPA! YOU DON'T WANT THAT! IT'S...
DON'T TELL ME WHAT I WANT AND WHAT I DON'T WANT! MMM, STILL WARM...
MMMM, NICE AND SOFT ON MY GUMS.
HARALPH!
YOU'RE DISGUSTING, MONTY!
WELL, YEE-HA! SIGN ME UP!
GEE, MA, THANKS FOR SMOKING WHILE YOU WERE PREGNANT WITH ME!
LOOK AT THE BRIGHT SIDE, WHILE ALL YOUR FRIENDS ARE PAYING AT THE MOVIES, YOU CAN STILL SNEAK BY AS A KID!
M UNTAINS
YOU MUST BE THIS TALL TO RIDE
YEAH, TILL I'M THIRTY!
IF YOU'RE LUCKY!

HI, WANT SOME DOLLY JERKY?
WHAT'D YOU CALL ME? OH... HELLO!
DOLLY JERKY
HOT
HOW ABOUT A FREE SAMPLE? THIS ONE'S CALLED DOLLY'S INFERNO!
MMMM... GOOD GOD THAT'S HOT! WHERE'S A DRINK?
HOT
HOW ABOUT A NICE CUP OF DOLLY BUTTERMILK?
I HOPE GRANDPA'S STILL HUNGRY! I THINK I'M GONNA LOSE IT AGAIN!
IT IS Butter!!
FARM FRESH
THERE YOU ARE! COME ON, TIME TO GO!
WAIT! NO! BJT ME AND TERRY JO GOTTA GO TO THE DUMPSTERS.
FORGET IT! WE GOTTA HIT THE PARKING LOT BEFORE IT EMPTIES OUT!
YOUR FATHER LIKES TO GET A HEAD START ON THE GAS SIPHONING.
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW GET YOUR HOSE AND COME ON!
I GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE, TERRY JO.
HOW ABOUT A QUICK TONSIL BATH BEFORE YA GO?
WE'RE HEADING TOWARDS THE SETTING SUN. YOU KNOW WHAT THAT REPRESENTS, DON'T YA?
DEATH?
NOT QUITE, BOY. IT MEANS... California!
GREAT. RIOTS, SMOG, EARTHQUAKES AND ROLLING BLACKOUTS. I'LL FIT RIGHT IN WITH ALL THAT MISERY.
THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

FEEL BETTER?
YEAH, SORRY ABOUT CRYING. I HAVE A VERY SENSITIVE TONGUE!
REALLY? WELL MAYBE I CAN KISS IT FOR YOU.
AWESOME! ARE ALL SOUTHERN GIRLS LIKE YOU?
SOME GOT CLOSER SET EYES. IT'S ALL A MATTER OF HOW MUCH INBREEDING THERE WAS IN OUR TEEN YEARS! LET'S GO OVER BY THE DUMPSTERS.
SWEET!
SLLURP!
WOW, YOU GOT OUT THAT LODGED PIECE OF JERKY! THANKS, TERRY JO, I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!
WHATEVER.
ALL RIGHT PEOPLE, WE GOT A FULL TANK, EMPTY MAYO JARS AND HALF A CASE OF CURRY CORNNUTS! THAT OUGHT TO GET US THERE.
I'M AFRAID TO ASK, BUT... WHERE TO NOW, DAD?
EXIT
IN OUR NEXT SUN-SOAKED EPISODE...
WHEN I GET TO CALIFORNIA, I'M GONNA SQUASH SOME GRAPES ALL OVER MY BODY!
EWWWW! HOW COME?
MY FUNGUS IS ACTING UP AGAIN. IT'S AN OLD CHEYENNE REMEDY!
NICE.

10 SIGNS

According to FBI statistics, rates of serious crimes have fallen off steeply in the last several years. One reason is the inevitable aging of youths that comprised many violent street gangs. How about *your* gang members? Are they getting a bit long in the tooth? Are the once feared "Loco," "Thug" and "Killa" now referred to as "Gramps," "Pokey" and "Gums"? Have you officially changed your gang colors to "Viagra Blue" and "Pepto Bismol Pink"? Maybe it's time that you woke up and got down with the...

Gang wars had to be rescheduled because half the guys had to drop off their kids at soccer practice.

Over the years, the gang's robbery targets have "evolved" from banks...to liquor stores...to "that half-blind old man selling oranges at the Harbor Freeway on-ramp"!

All the graffiti is now in easier-to-read large print.

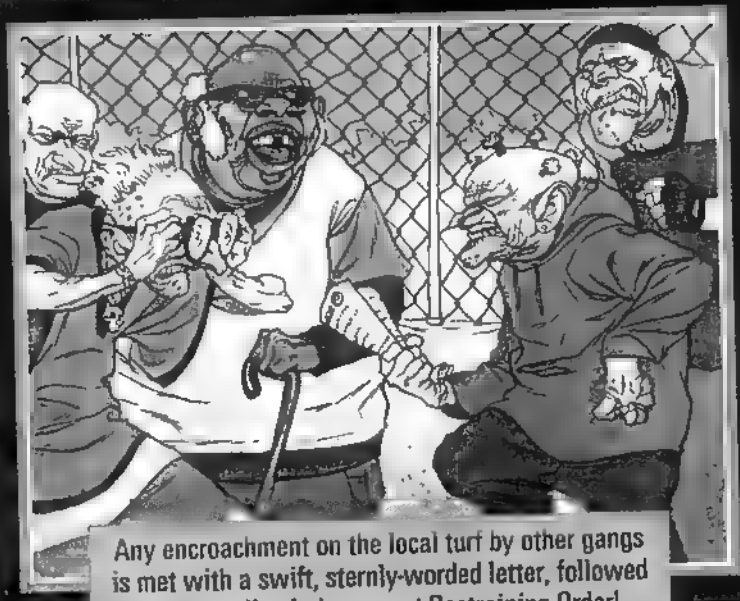
Members spend less time threatening rival gangs for encroaching on their territory...and more time yelling at local kids to "Get the hell off my lawn, punk!"

They've stopped showing off stab wounds and bullet holes and now complain about hip replacements and bypass scars

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

THAT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD GANG IS GETTING OLD

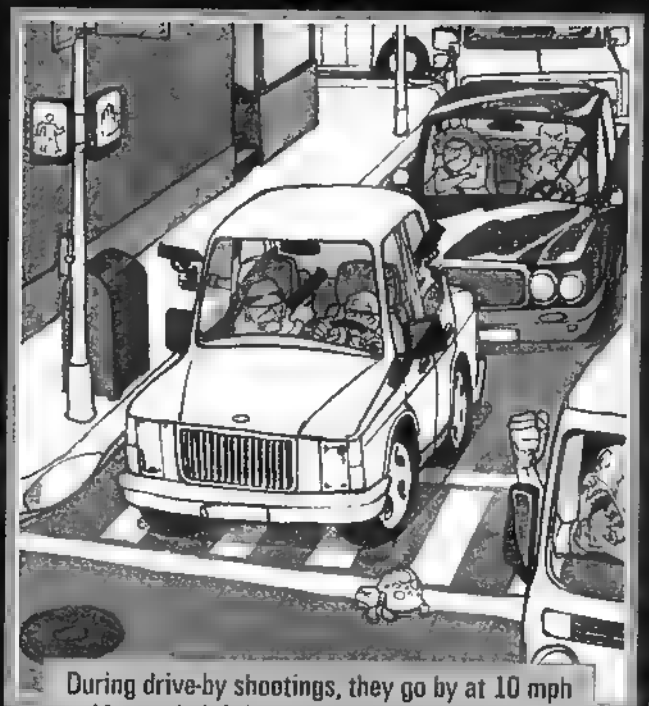
Police now mockingly refer to your gang as "The Iron Poor Bloods."



Any encroachment on the local turf by other gangs is met with a swift, sternly-worded letter, followed up immediately by a court Restraining Order!

The hottest new personal fashion accessory in the 'hood is trifocal Ray-Bans.

The gang hand signs have had to be simplified to accommodate members' arthritis.



During drive-by shootings, they go by at 10 mph and leave their left turn signal on the entire time.

A MAN'S BEFORE AFTER COMMITTING

Since time immemorial, women have been withholding sex from men, usually in retaliation for one perceived infraction or another that men invariably commit. Men know this, but have never been able to totally avoid committing these offending deeds. Why, you ask? Because women are always changing the rules, or making up new ones in the top-secret meetings they have. Well, we guys at MAD think we have finally broken the code that guides all women in their never-ending effort to torture randy men. Here's...

THE MAN'S ERROR	LENGTH OF TIME (Before He Can Expect to "Get Any")
Giggling at her for getting misty-eyed at the end of a chick-flick	4 days
Using any expression other than "making love" to refer to sex	4 days
Tone of voice she doesn't like while talking about her mother	5 days
Actually saying "No, I don't want to go" when she says "It's okay if you don't want to go"	6 days
Shushing her during ESPN's *SportsCenter*	8 days
Not allowing her to watch *Judging Amy* because there's a 3 Stooges marathon on AMC	3 days
Bringing up the possibility of a "threesome"...	
...with her friend	2 days
...with her sister	19 days
...with her mom	6 months
Shrugging your shoulders and grunting when she asks how the makeup she just spent 1 1/2 hours putting on looks	2 days
Showing up 1 1/2 hours late for a date because there was "this really cool police chase on live TV"	3 days
Not answering quickly or vehemently enough when she asks if you would ever cheat on her	12 days
Scratching your privates and asking her "what the hell did you give me?"	3 months
Accusing her of "having PMS"	
...when she doesn't	8 days
...when she does	12 days
Failure to be serious about a relationship quiz in *Cosmopolitan* magazine	4 days
Casually remarking that if she wanted a boob job you'd be willing to pay for it	3 weeks
Using logic	6 days

GUIDE TO HOW LONG YOU'LL "GET ANY"

ONE OF THESE COMMON RELATIONSHIP ERRORS

But hey, let's be honest. Men aren't the only ones who screw up in a relationship. In the interest of fair play, we also present...

A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO HOW LONG BEFORE YOU'LL "GET ANY"

AFTER COMMITTING ONE OF THESE COMMON RELATIONSHIP ERRORS

THE WOMAN'S ERROR	LENGTH OF TIME (Before She Can Expect to "Get Any")
Selling off his prized baseball card collection	2 hours
Wrecking his car	2 hours
Running off with the mailman, but coming back after a week or so	2 hours
Accidentally enlisting him in the Marine Corps	2 hours
Running up a $1,000 phone bill calling psychic hotlines from his place	2 hours
Burning all his clothes	2 hours
Killing his mother	2 hours
Shredding his entire skin magazine collection	2 hours
Selling his dog to a Korean restaurant	2 hours
Slicing off his penis with a kitchen knife, then tossing it into a vacant lot	2 hours

ARTIST: PETER KUPER WRITER: MIKE SNIDER

Public Schools are facing severe financial crises. Budgets are being cut, leaving students with old textbooks, faulty gym equipment and the like. What is the answer? Hit up big corporations for donations and sponsorship. Now, we can tolerate a new basketball scoreboard with a company's name on it, but a textbook that teaches math by having students count Cheerios is a whole other story. Can you say hidden agenda? Recently, we traveled to Pepsi High School in Long Beach, California to find out what happens...

WHEN CORPO PUBLIC SCH

From the R.J. Reynolds U.S. History Textbook

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

In 1620, the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. They were greeted by Indians who helped them plant corn and wheat and tobacco. Ah, smooth tobacco! Together, the Pilgrims and Indians harvested their tobacco and then processed it into cigarettes and then sold them to others who could prove they were at least 18 years old. It was in this spirit of cooperation and providing the public with a product it wanted that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated.

IMPORTANT TERMS IN THIS CHAPTER:

- ✓ Tobacco
- ✓ Cigarettes
- ✓ Thanksgiving

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- How do cigarettes help bring people of different races together?
- What can you do to ensure that all Americans always have the right to smoke tobacco, a naturally occurring plant?

ARTIST: GEORGE WOODBRIDGE WRITER: RICKY SPRAGUE

RATE SPONSORSHIP OF OOLS GOES TOO FAR!

From Seagram's Chemistry Experiments Workbook

EXPERIMENT No. 6.0

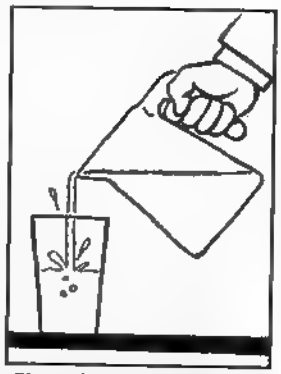
MATERIALS NEEDED:

- One 750 ml bottle C_2H_5OH (Ethyl alcohol) compound — *let's call it "tequila"*
- One 44.5 milliliter measuring beaker — *let's call it a "jigger"*
- One 250 ml bottle triple distilled juice of Citrus limetta Risso — *let's call it "triple sec"*
- One Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle — *let's call it a "lime"*
- 4 cubes of H_2O stored below 0 degrees centigrade — *let's call it "ice"*
- 3.7 milliliters NaCl — *let's call it "table salt"*
- One 284 ml conical flask — *let's call it a "highball glass"*

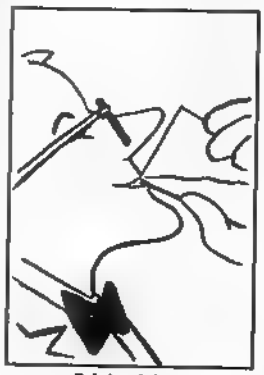
Multiply materials times the number of lab partners (and don't forget the instructor!)

DIRECTIONS FOR EXPERIMENT:

Combine 1 measuring beaker of C_2H_5OH compound, 1/3 measuring beaker of triple distilled juice of Citrus limetta Risso, 2/3 measuring beaker of juice squeezed from Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle, and 4 cubes of H_2O stored below 0 degrees centigrade.



Place mixture in conical flask, the rim of which has been rubbed with wedge of Citrus aurantifolia (Christm.) Swingle and sprinkled with NaCl.



Drink mixture.

Repeat experiment as many times as desired and/or physically able to.

Observations:

- Observe how much better you feel after drinking mixture
- Observe how much more fun your lab partners are to be with
- Observe how your head feels in six to eight hours – Let's call it a "hangover"

Remember:

Don't mix acids and bases in an impaired state.

WHEN CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS GOES TOO FAR!

From MasterCard's Elementary Math Flash Cards

2+2=4*

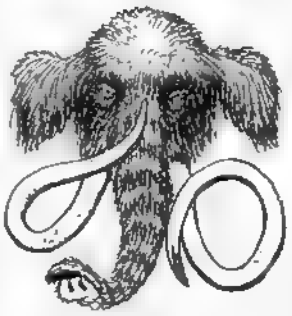
*"4" is the correct answer if reached during the initial grace period. Following the initial grace period, the sum shall be subject to an annual percentage rate of 17.99%, which corresponds to a daily periodic rate of 0.0493%. This rate will begin to accrue from the date the equation is assigned for homework and continue to accrue until the correct answer is credited to your midterms or final exams, whichever occurs first. If 30 days pass and the teacher has not received a minimum required answer, an additional late fee of 29 shall be added to the sum of the equation. So, if Johnny is given this equation in January and does not answer until February, the correct answer to "2+2" shall be calculated as 4+4X1.499%, or 4.05996,with a minimum required answer of 1. If Johnny does then not make the correct or minimum required answer until March, the correct answer to "2+2" shall be calculated as 4+4.05996X1.499%+29, or 33.12082, with a new minimum required answer of 2. (At current percentage rates, if only the minimum required answer is made each month, it will take 39 years to reach the correct answer. If Johnny is left back, he will be subject to a $25 annual membership fee.)

From THE HOME DEPOT's Life Sciences Book

CHAPTER SIX: EXTINCTION

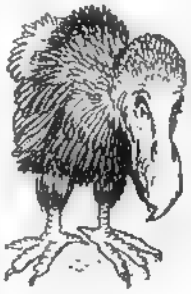
Extinction is a natural, necessary part of the Life Cycle. It is the process in nature by which, according to Darwin's Theory of Evolution, only the organisms best adapted to their environment tend to survive while those less adapted tend to be eliminated. In other words, every so often, bigger, stronger animals will enter an ecosystem and overwhelm the smaller animals that don't have the means to support themselves in the new, more competitive environment. As a result, the more efficient organisms take over and eventually, no one even remembers the extinct species. This is also referred to as *Natural Selection*.

Some Extinct Organisms:



Wooly Mammoth

Saber-Toothed Tiger

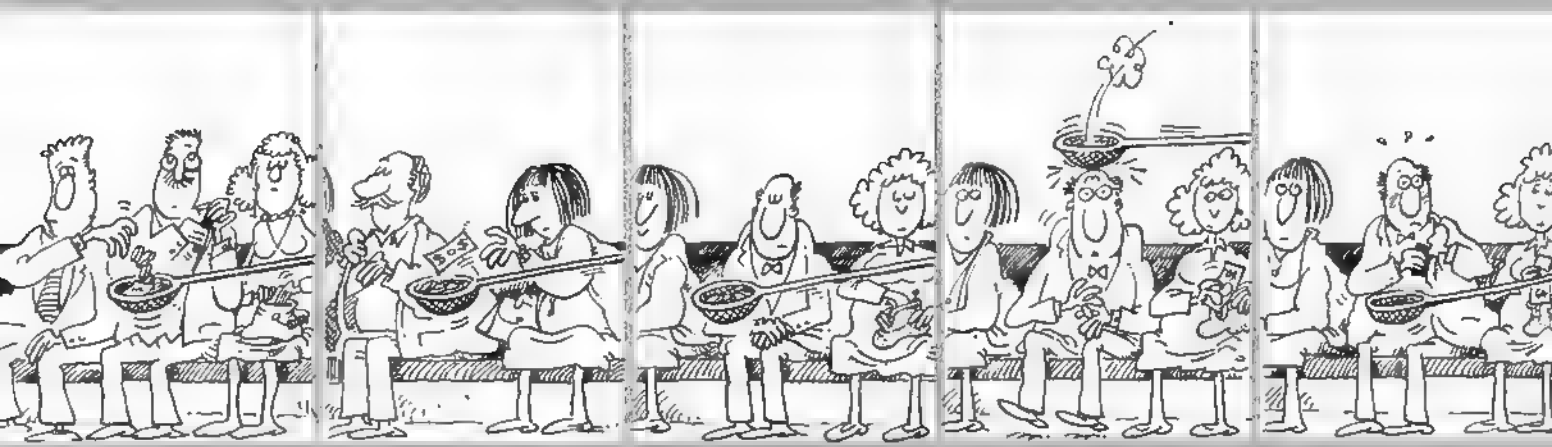


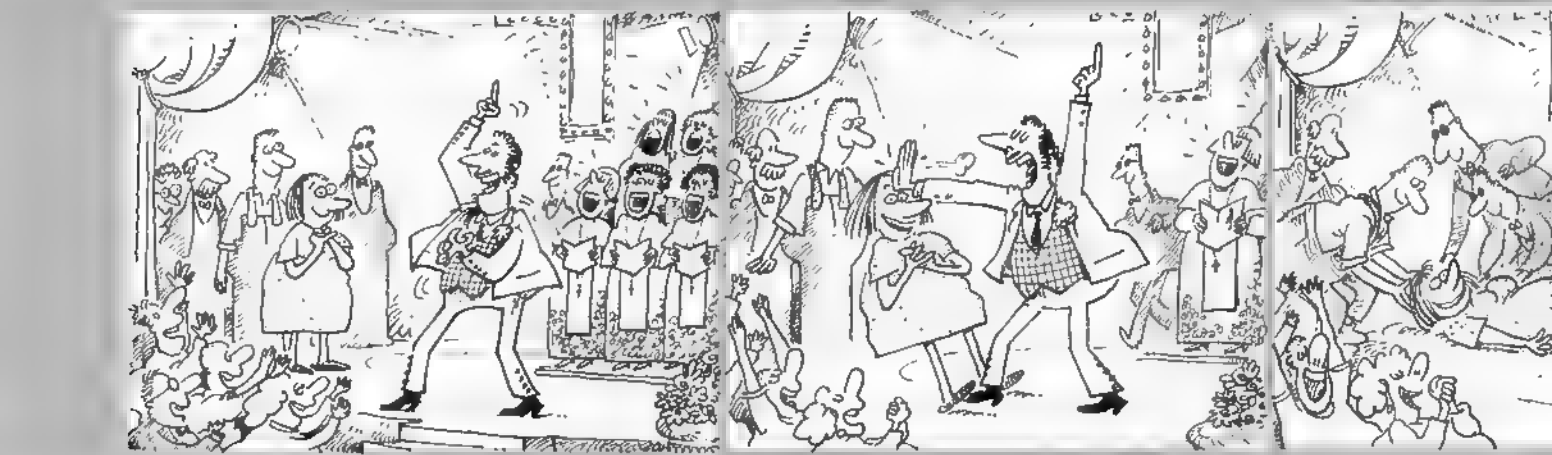
Dodo Bird

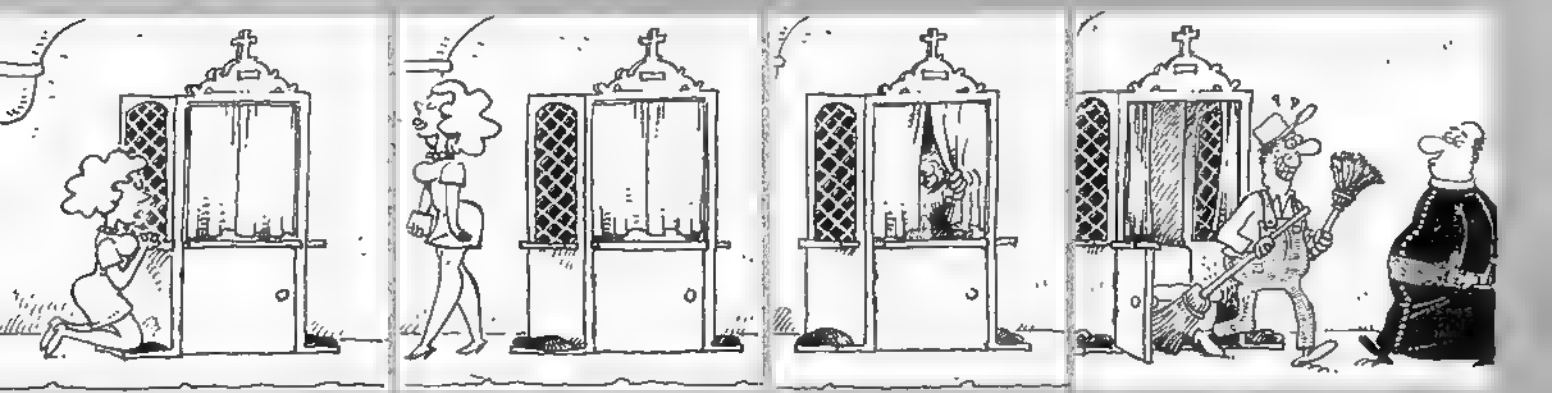
Mom and Pop Small Corner Hardware Store

Real
Ad

A MAD LOOK AT PRIE & A FE



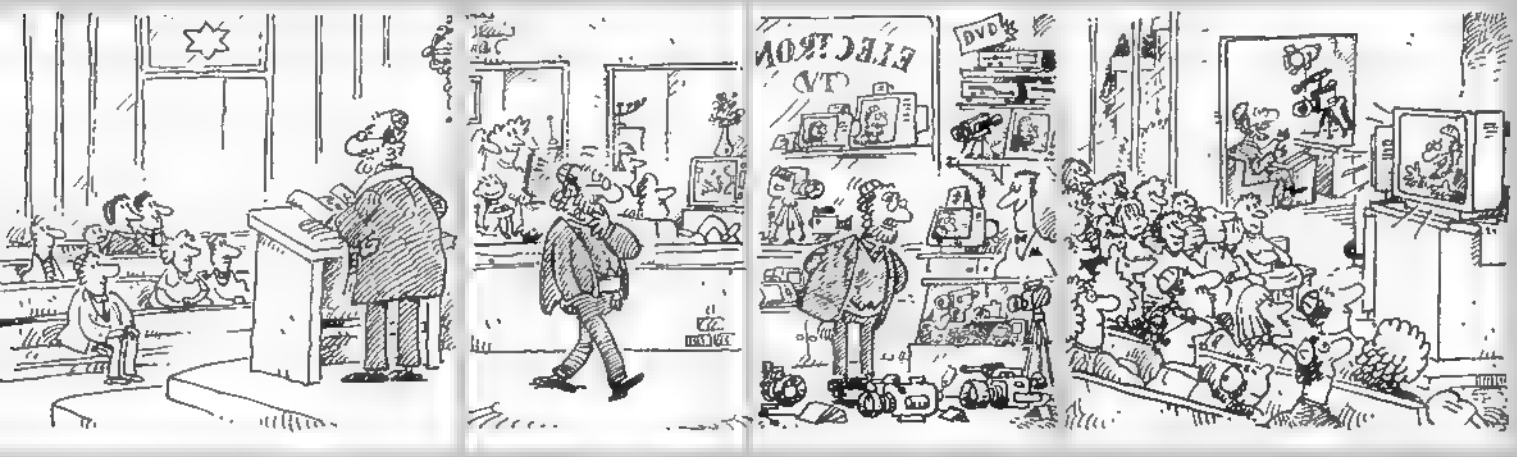


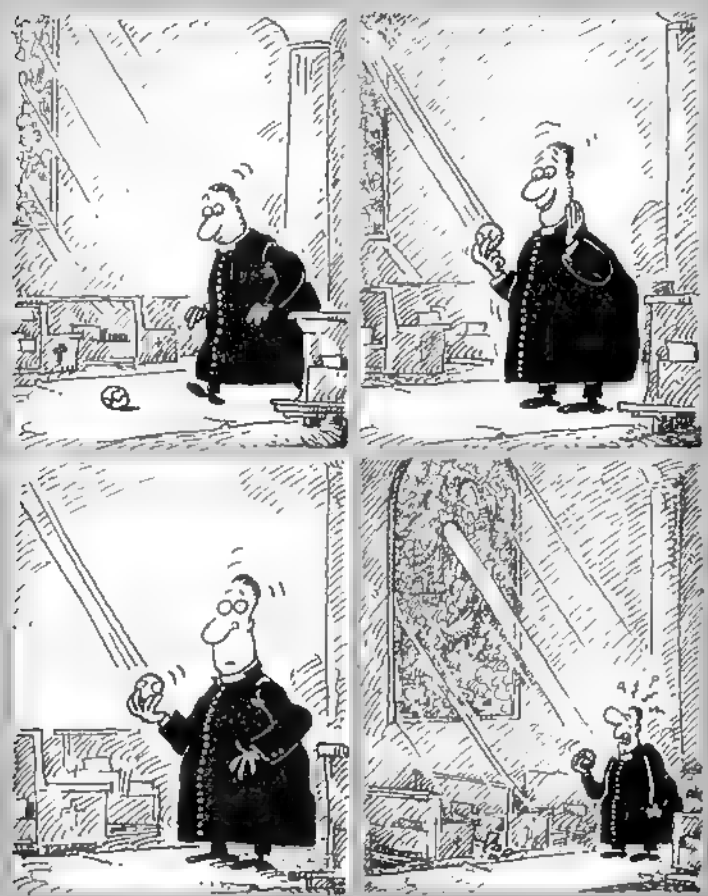


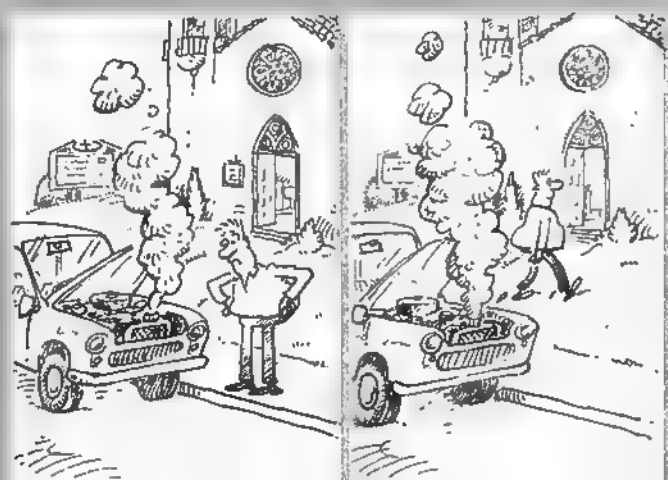
ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES

STS, MINISTERS, RABBIS
W SCOUNDRELS

ECCLES ASTIC
STORE
CHURCH SUPPLIES
ALTAR WARE

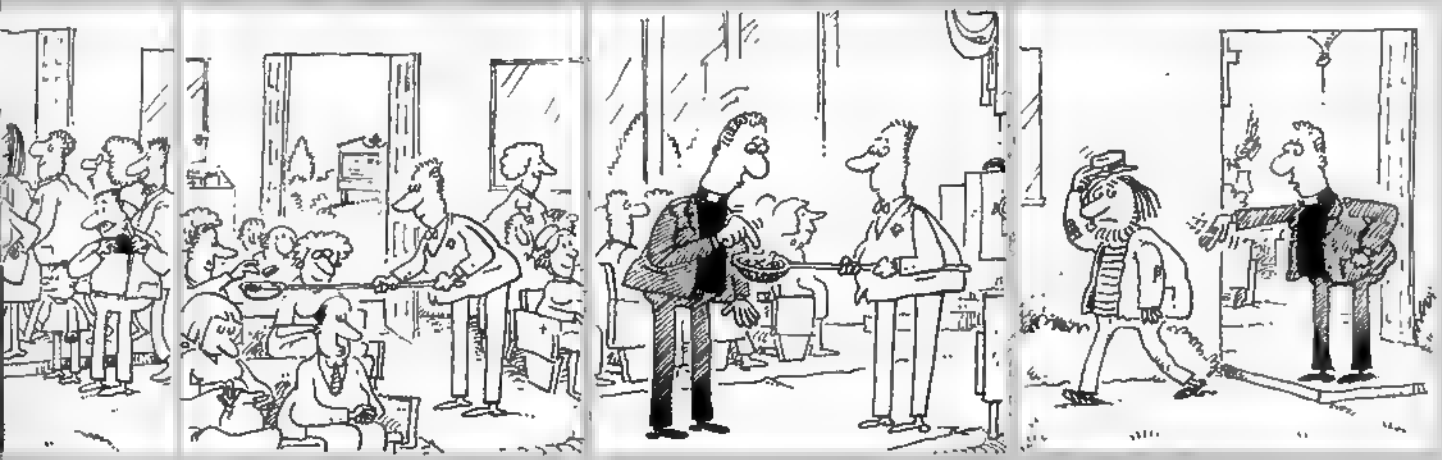

DVD
TV

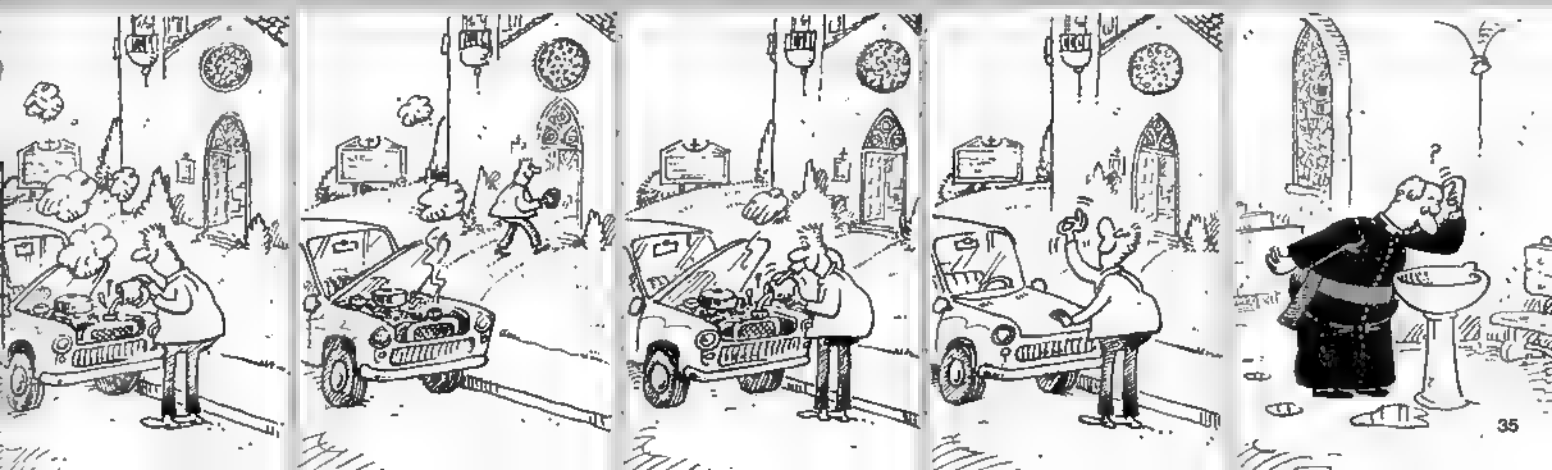




MOUTH WASH

AIRPORT
AIRPO
GATE 3





It used to be that nothing short of a doctor's note detailing the symptoms of a highly contagious disease was acceptable fodder for missing a day of school. But, just as the quality of education has deteriorated, so have plausible excuses. So, to keep your ideas fresh and timely, we present you with a selection of new, improved and guaranteed to be accepted...

STUDENT EXCUSE NOTES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

MEMO

TO: Frank Diblow,
Social Studies Instructor
FROM: Mrs. Linda Mochino

Dear Mr. Diblow,
Lorianna was absent from school yesterday because she had an ob-gyn appointment. By the way, it looks like you're going to be the father of twins!

Lorianna's mother,
Linda

Dear Teacher,

Zappy could not attend yesterday because of our religious holiday, the Feast of Princess Arcturus. We are required to stay home, light firecrackers and sing funeral dirges in preparation for the day when the Mothership comes for us, to bring us to live in Eternal Paradise. I guess it goes without saying that Zappy will no longer be in school at all after this happens.

Long Live Arcturus,
Sunbeam Funderlicht ☮

DEAR TEACHER,

ONE OF MY KIDS WAS ABSENT THE OTHER DAY BECAUSE OF SOME SORT OF SICKNESS, THOUGH I FORGET WHICH KID OR WHICH SICKNESS.

DAPHNE VON CATCHKEY

To... Capric@pghs.com

Subject: Cory's Absence

Dear Mrs. Capric,
Cory was absent last Friday because he got engrossed playing Myst and reached another level. Activities such as this are essential to helping develop Cory's hand/eye coordination. At least that's what it said in the player's manual.
Sincerely,
Cory's Parents

Dear Ms. Blotz,

Antigone was absent from class yesterday because she was attending the funeral of her surrogate mother's live-in lover.

Sincerely,
Hank Mackey (Antigone's sperm donor)

Dear Professor:

You'll have to pardon LaRissa's absence yesterday. She was feeling the angst of being trapped in a cold, uncaring world that barely acknowledges her existence.

Best Wishes,
Mariana Pinato

Dear Ms. Savssat,

Sorry about Lenny missing class last Monday. He overdosed on Ritalin and didn't wake up until noon.

Sincerely,
Fred Agrippa

BRENT SACKBUT

Dear Mrs. Unbe,

Please excuse Melantha's absence from English class yesterday. She had to wait for FedEx to deliver her term paper.

Thank You,
Brent Sackbut

Dear Sir and/or Madam:

Dag was injured in the Junior Snowboarding Championships at The 'Bird, when he bonked hard after a really aggro carve. He's still a grom, and tends to shred.

Xtremely Yours,
Dag Sr.

ARTIST: GERRY GERSTEN WRITER: JEFF KRUSE

WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE AND READ ALL OVER? (WE HOPE!)

INCLUDES:

- Rare interviews with Spy Vs. Spy creator Antonio Prohias!
- All 247 of Prohias's Spy Vs. Spy strips, as well as every non-Spy article he created for MAD!
- Biographical and historical essays by Sergio Aragones, Duck Edwing, Grant Geissman, Peter Kuper, Nick Meglin, Marta Pizarro and Fabiola Santiago, each detailing a different aspect and perspective on the Spies and their creator, Antonio Prohias!
- Prohias family photographs!
- Rare political and editorial cartoons from Cuba, including Prohias's pre-Spy "Sinister Man" cartoons!
- Unpublished and never-before-seen preliminary sketches and artist roughs!
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AND MORE!

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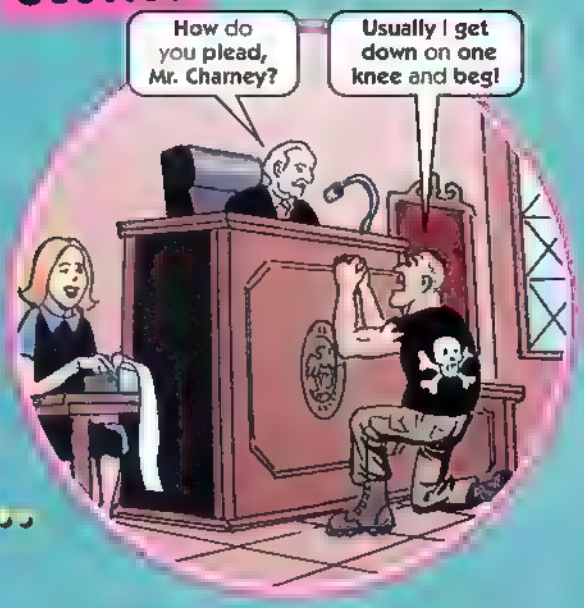
Read An Exclusive Excerpt Of This Book in MAD XL #12!

Spy vs Spy 40th ANNIVERSARY

The Lighter Side of...

JUSTICE

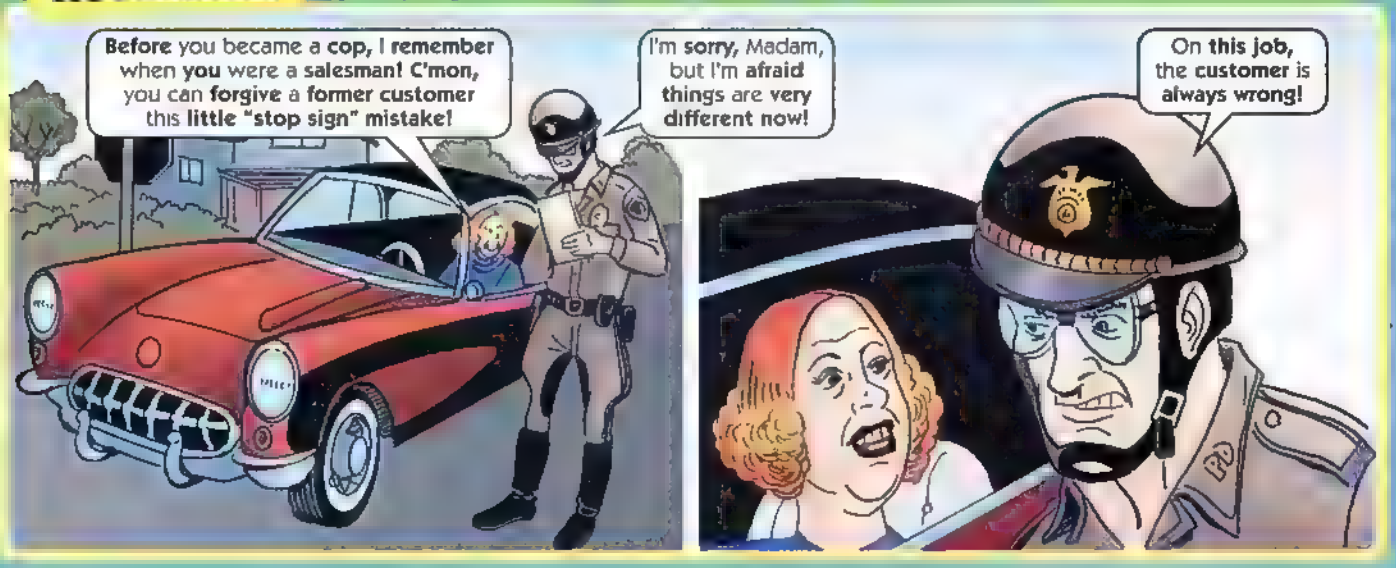


RELATIONSHIPS

ARTIST AND WRITER: DAVE BERG COLORIST:WILDSTORM

She must think I'm the world's most boring guy! Every time I'm with her I can never think of anything to say! I like her a lot, but I'll never call her for a date again!
This guy is the best listener I've ever met! I think I'm falling in love with him!

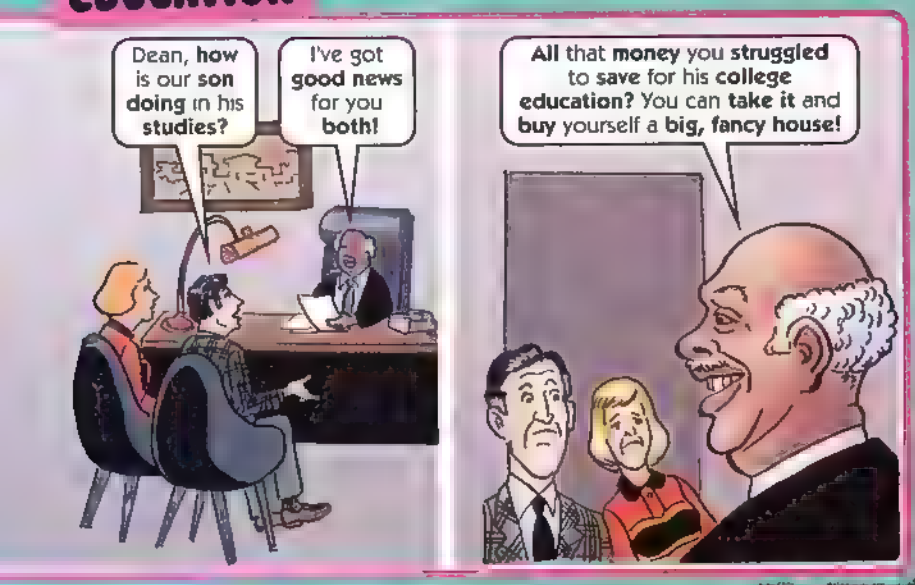
REVERSALS


Before you became a cop, I remember when you were a salesman! C'mon, you can forgive a former customer this little "stop sign" mistake!
I'm sorry, Madam, but I'm afraid things are very different now!
On this job, the customer is always wrong!

PLANNING AHEAD

The men are here to repossess the piano!
What? I gave you the money to pay that bill two weeks ago!
I know! But I figured I'd let them bring it down to the living room where I want it now! Then I'll pay!

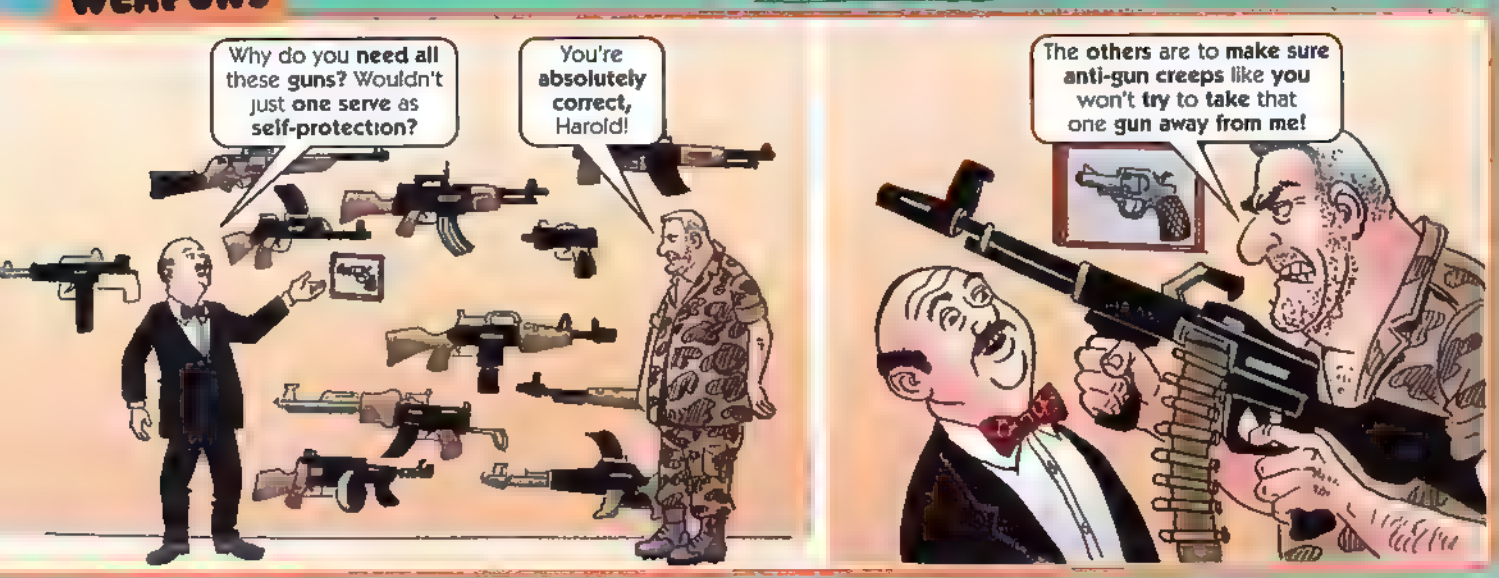
EDUCATION


Dean, how is our son doing in his studies?
I've got good news for you both!
All that money you struggled to save for his college education? You can take it and buy yourself a big, fancy house!

THERAPY

Do you see what I mean about his inability to communicate, Dr. Forman? All the while I was talking, he just sits there yawning!
But I wasn't yawning!

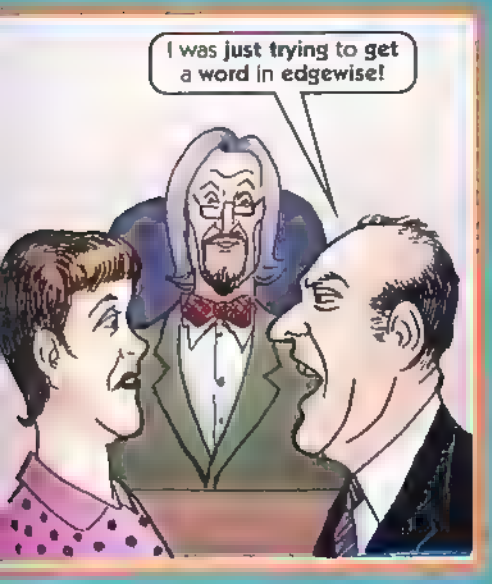
WEAPONS


Why do you need all these guns? Wouldn't just one serve as self-protection?
You're absolutely correct, Harold!
The others are to make sure anti-gun creeps like you won't try to take that one gun away from me!

PRIORITIES

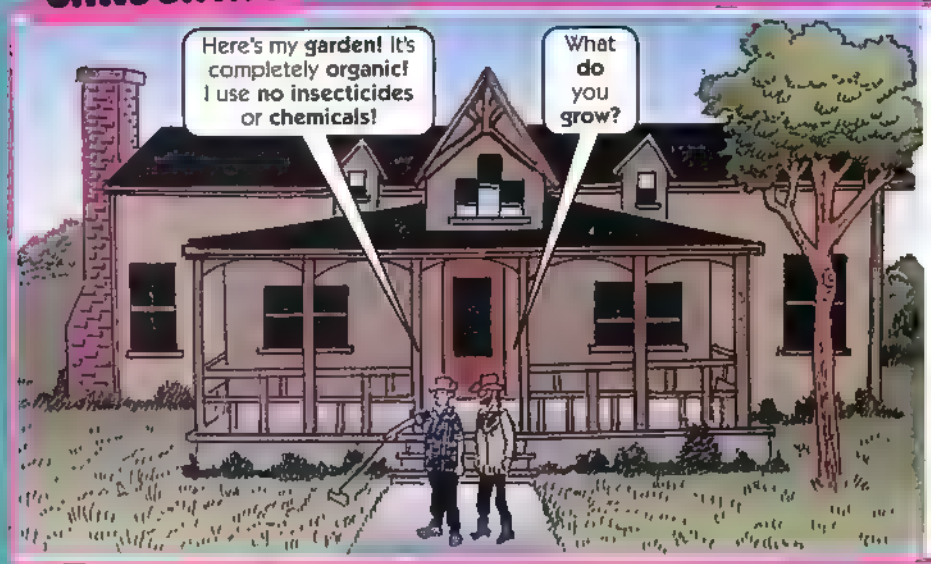
Honey, what would you like to get the kids for Christmas this year?
Well, I've given it a lot of thought!
Get them anything you want as long as you buy it on Amazon.com! I just bought 400 more shares!

LAWYERS



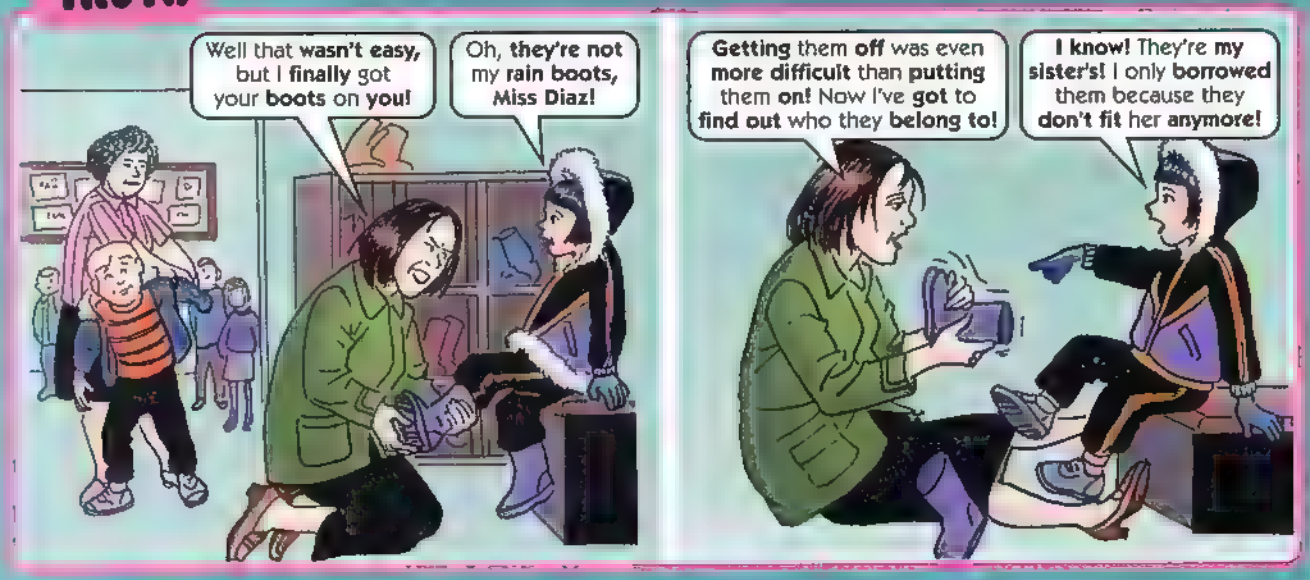
My father spent $100,000 to send me to law school! And right after my first case, I paid him all back!
You must have won the case!
No, I lost the case — to my father! He sued me for the 100 grand!

GARDENING

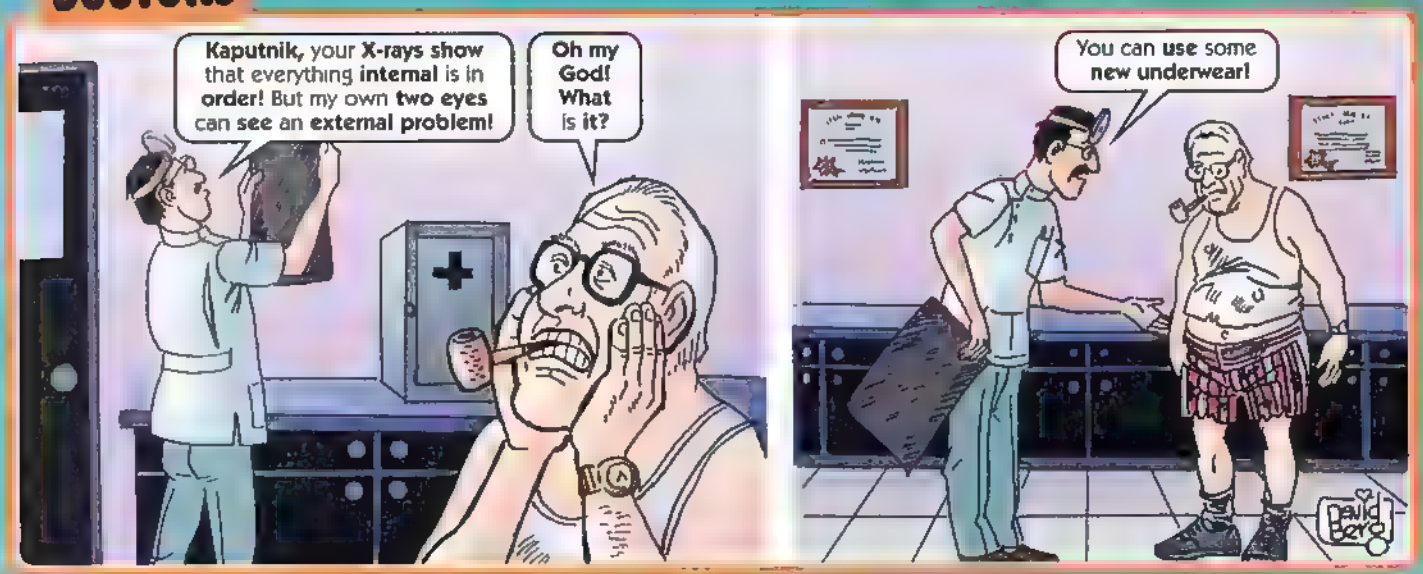


THE OFFICE

TRUTH


Well that **wasn't easy,** but I **finally** got your **boots** on **you!**
Oh, **they're not** my **rain boots, Miss Diaz!**
Getting them **off** was even **more difficult** than **putting** them **on!** Now I've **got** to **find out** who they **belong to!**
I know! They're **my sister's!** I only **borrowed** them because they **don't fit** her **anymore!**

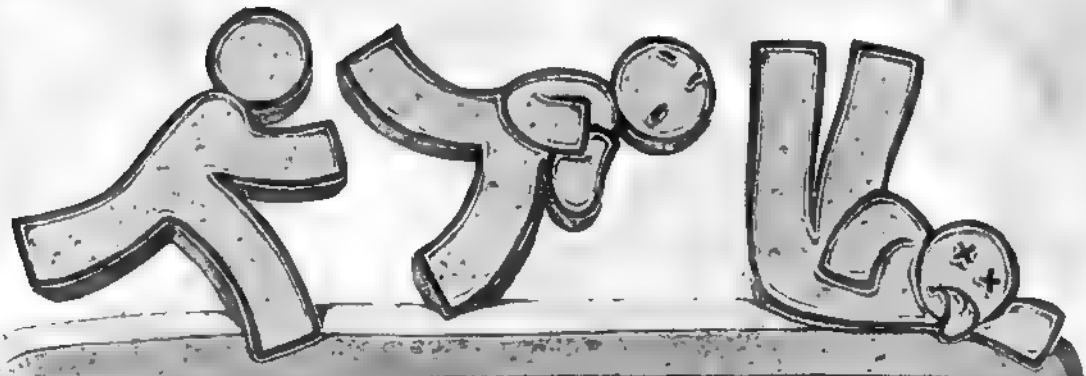
DOCTORS


Kaputnik, your **X-rays show** that everything **internal** is in **order!** But my own **two eyes** can **see** an **external problem!**
Oh my God! What is **it?**
You can **use** some **new underwear!**
David Berg

MAD's CELEBRITY CAUSE-OF-DEATH BETTING ODDS

Our team of crack oddsmakers gives you the latest Vegas line on how one of today's biggest stars will be control — alt — deleted!

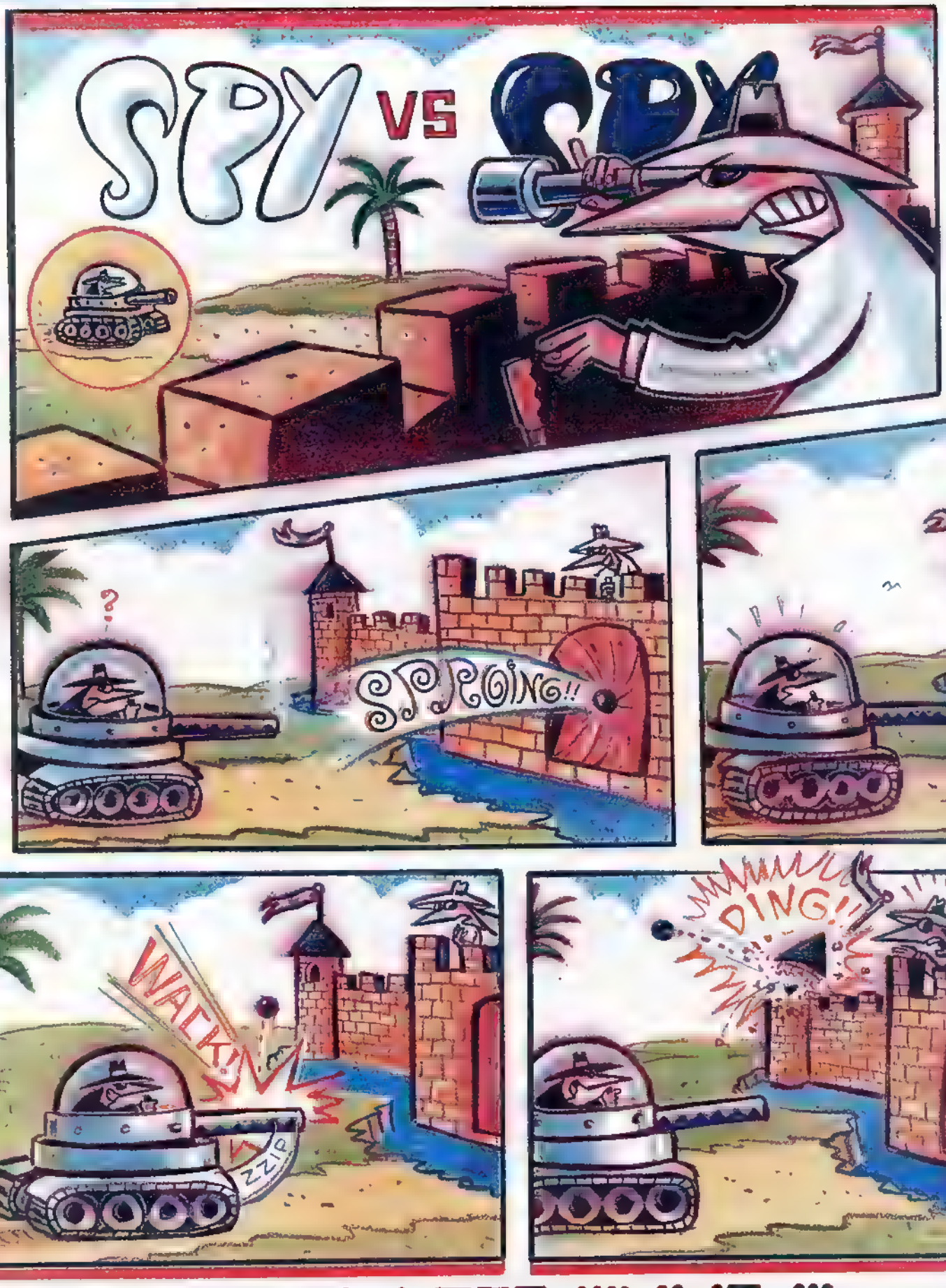
THIS MONTH'S FUTURE HANDFUL OF DUST:

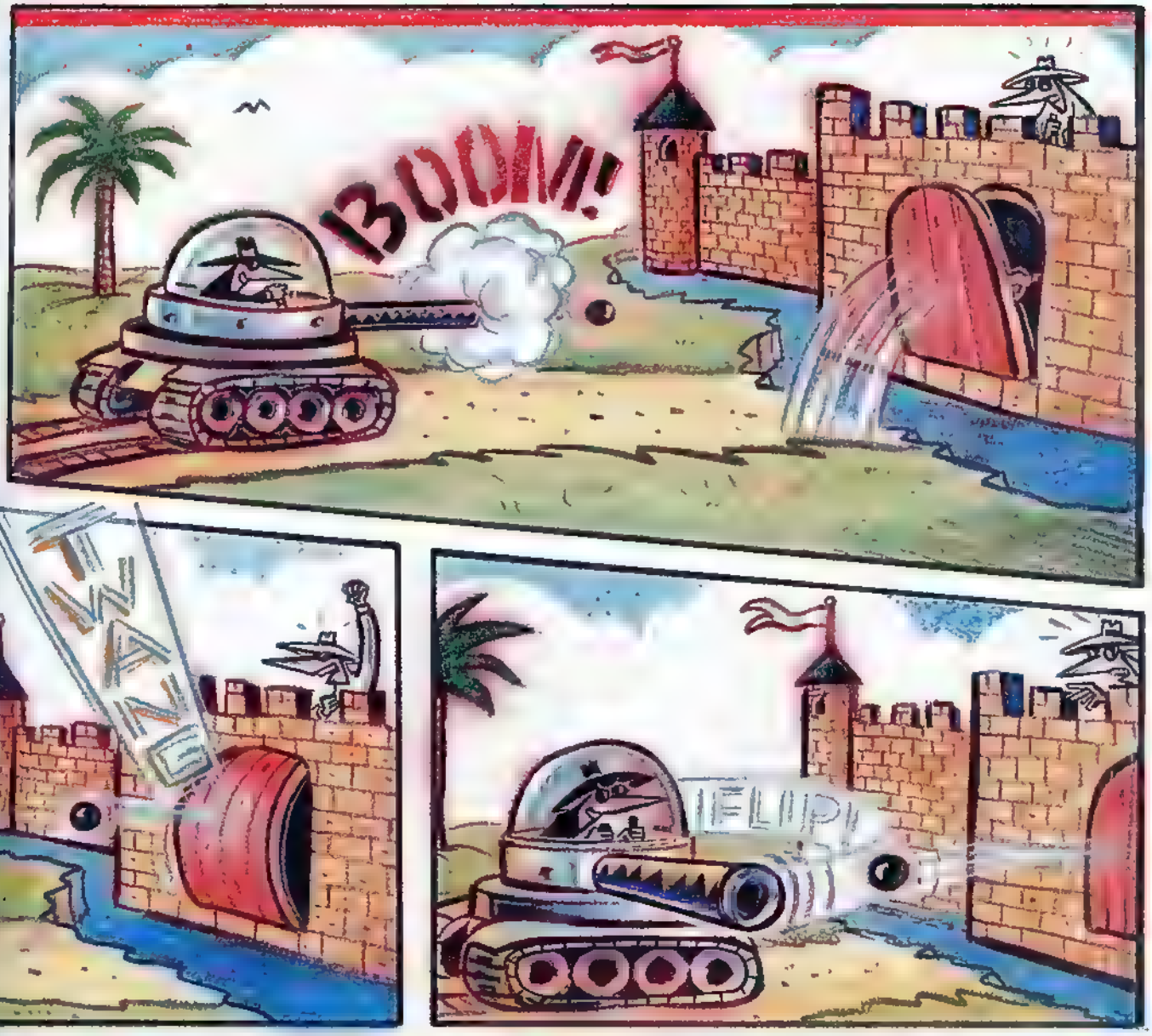


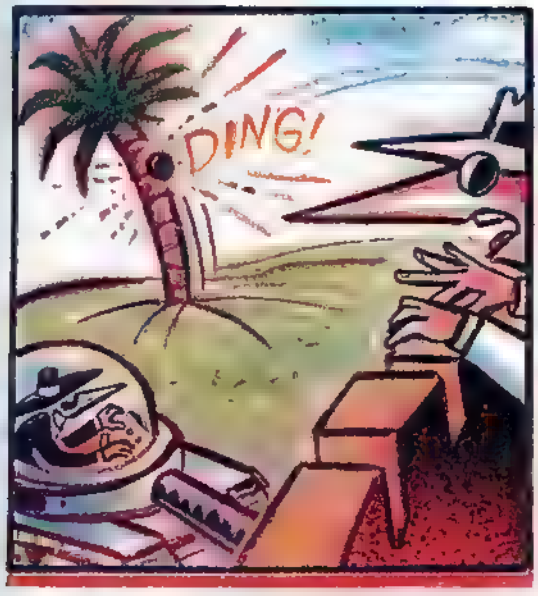
THE LITTLE AOL MAN

CAUSE OF DEATH	ODDS
Finally succumbs to cumulative effects of "Melissa" and "I Love You" computer viruses	1:1
Terminal exhaustion from running in place on AOL sign-on screen during busy signals	2:1
Throws self into recycle bin after being laid off due to merger of AOL and Time Warner	4:1
Skull fracture from clunk on head by unexpected Buddy List dropping down out of nowhere	6:1
Heart attack upon learning awful secret that his father is the yellow "Smiley Face" from the 1970s	9:1
Bored to death during visit to typical AOL chat room	10:1

ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA
WRITER: MIKE SNIDER


SPY VS SPY
?
SPRONG!!
WACK!
ZZIP
DING!!





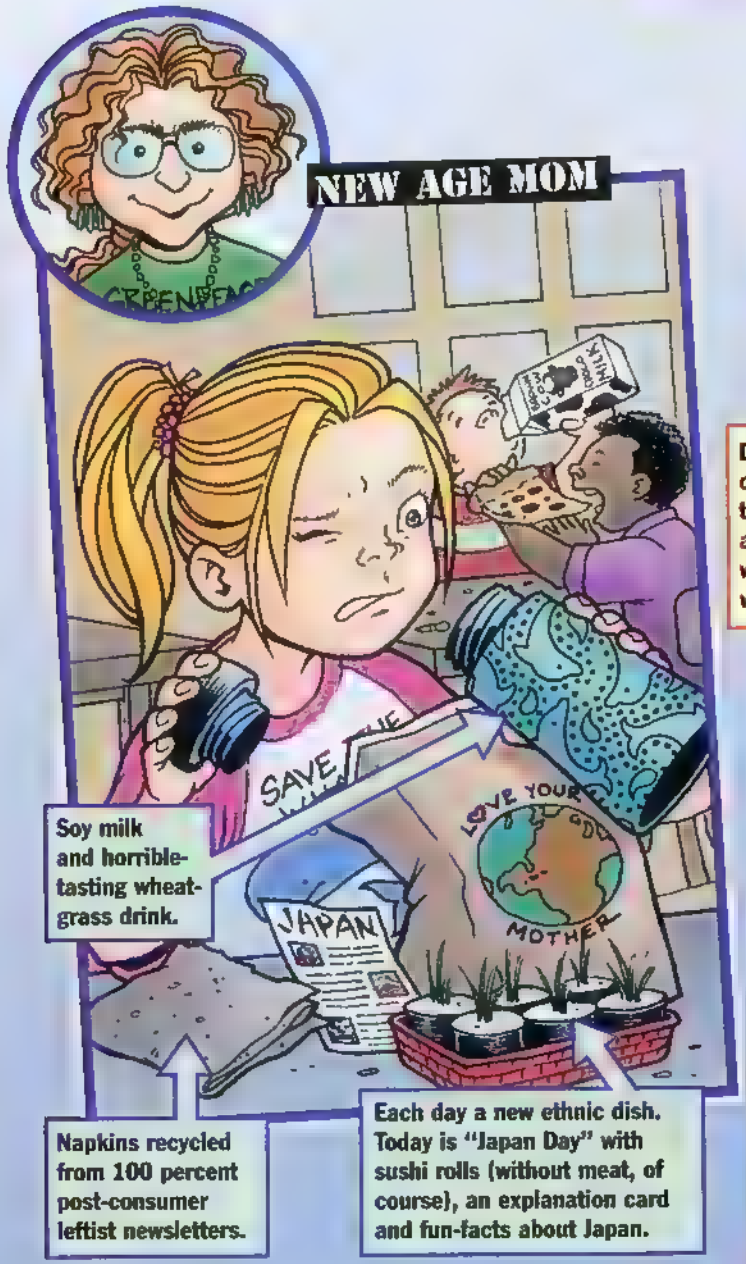
ARTIST AND WRITER: PETER KUPER

LUNCH-PACKING MOM PROFILES

Remember when your mom used to put a little note and a treat in with your lunch? (No? What a sad childhood you had!) From a few scribbled lines and your favorite homemade cookies, you knew that she loved you and was thinking of you. (You really missed out, fella.) Yep, you can tell a lot about a mom from what she packs in your lunch. But every brown paper bag tells a different tale — and not all of them are so heartwarming. So to help decipher your mother's personality type based on her midday meal selections, MAD now presents...

ARTIST: AMANDA CONNER
WRITER: RYAN PAGELOW
COLORIST: WILDSTORM

NEW AGE MOM



Soy milk and horrible-tasting wheat-grass drink.

Napkins recycled from 100 percent post-consumer leftist newsletters.

Each day a new ethnic dish. Today is "Japan Day" with sushi rolls (without meat, of course), an explanation card and fun-facts about Japan.

DIVORCED MOM

De-crusted sandwich cut the way you used to like it before Mom and Dad lost touch with you because they were busy fighting.

Invitations to friends with single fathers to yet another pool party.

A brown bag until parents' divorce trial decides who owns which family assets, including your lunchbox.

Apology note for not being home after school, and yet another promise to take you to the zoo Saturday with her free time now that no-good Daddy is gone.

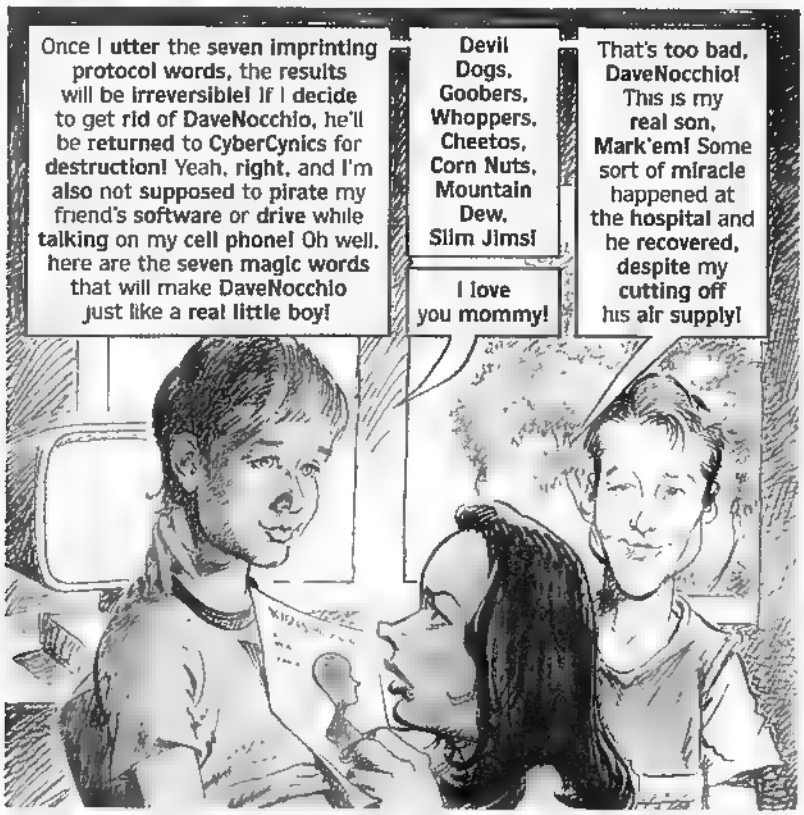
FUNDAMENTALIST MOM
Earplugs for when that Evolution Theory nonsense comes up during science class.
Religious tracts to pass out during recess.
Water, but no food, to continue fasting until those misguided classmates give up their demonic activity of co-ed kickball at recess.
STRESSED-OUT WORKING MOM
Your sister's favorite gummy snacks, not yours.
Your sandwich, accidentally wrapped in Mom's first quarter marketing report.
A can of soup with house key taped to it, with directions to microwave for dinner tonight.
EMBARRASSINGLY OVERPROTECTIVE MOM
Allergy pills in separate color-coded bags.
Outdated cartoon lunchbox.
Kneepads and helmet for recess in schoolyard.
Overly-balanced meal including selections from all four food groups, keyed to an enclosed laminated copy of the FDA Food Pyramid.
CRACK ADDICT MOM
An old issue of Cosmo.
63 cents.
One slightly mangy apple.

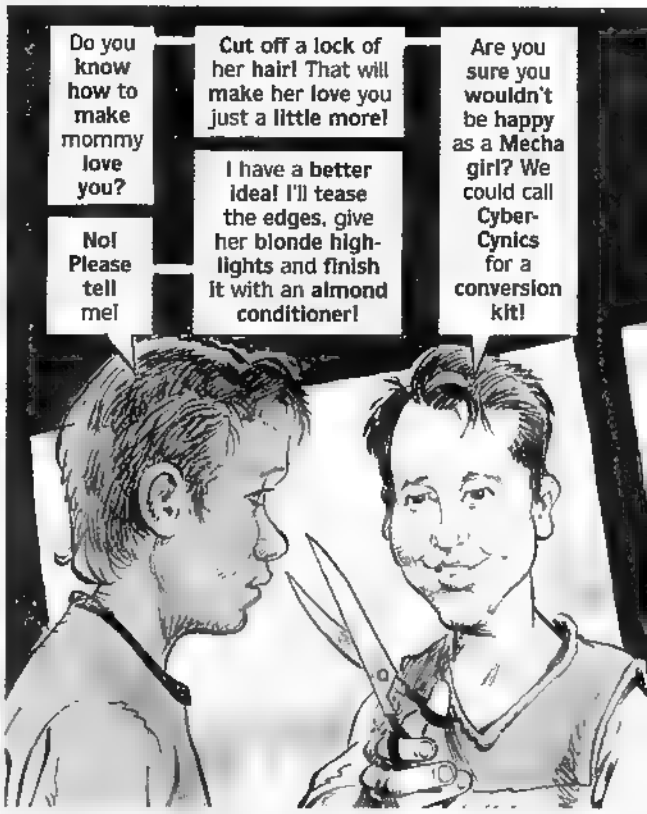
It's the Spielberg-by-way-of-Kubrick theory that in the future, in order to keep the world's population down, people will be offered a stark choice: either don't have children, or adopt robotic ones. The good news is that the robotic runts are life-like, loving and already toilet trained! The bad news is that they get on your nerves from day one, never grow up and never move out of the house — which is why the very idea of taking one of these little buggers home is the sheer height of...

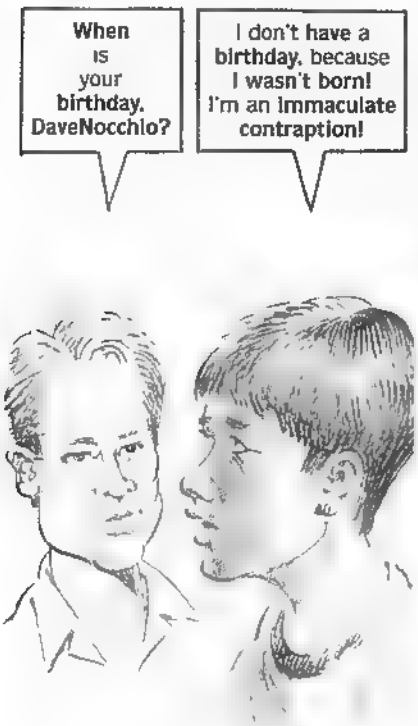
I'm Professor Hubby, Chief Engineer at CyberCynics! We just released our latest model, DaveNocchio, a Mecha 11-year-old boy! Getting this super-advanced Mechaboy to love was easy! Getting it to be loved back from cold, self-centered parents was another thing! But then, that's par for the course in the real world!
I'm DaveNocchio, the most advanced Mecha ever built! I can run, laugh, and I can even think! I cost about a billion dollars to perfect! It would have been nice if they spent an extra five bucks to give me the ability to blink! My eyes are killing me! One other thing! I don't have the ability to sleep, which is horrible! Imagine sitting through this film without having the ability to snooze! Sheer torture!
I'm Momica, the mother of a very sick son! My husband has the nerve to think a Mecha could replace him! I know I wouldn't have to feed a Mecha, clean up after him, or wash his dirty clothes! And the Mecha would do all the housework! All the shopping! All the cooking! Hmm...Maybe it's time we pulled the plug and took our real son off life support!
My wife hates the Mecha because she feels I'm trying to substitute him for our real son! I hate the Mecha for my own reasons! He's supposed to be mechanical, and yet he can act better than me! I'm not nutty about Eveready the Bear, either! He has 100 times more screen time than I do! Robots may not be taking over the planet, but they sure are taking over the plum movie roles!
I'm Eveready the Bear, the mandatory cuddly, licensable character in every Spielberg film! I am a super toy! I have the looks of an Ewok, the charm of C3PO and for some inexplicable reason, the voice of Hannibal Lecter!
I'm Giggle-Low Joe! I'm handsome, I'm hot, and I'm an expert lover who can get it on several times a day! And I never fall asleep afterwards! Instead, I want to cuddle! That's the dead giveaway to women that I'm a robot and not a real man!
I'm Mark'em, the real, human son! But I'm in a coma, so I can't utter anything here! But I hope to recover in the next few panels to inject some life into this movie!
MAX KO
QRT DRUCKER ROBOT

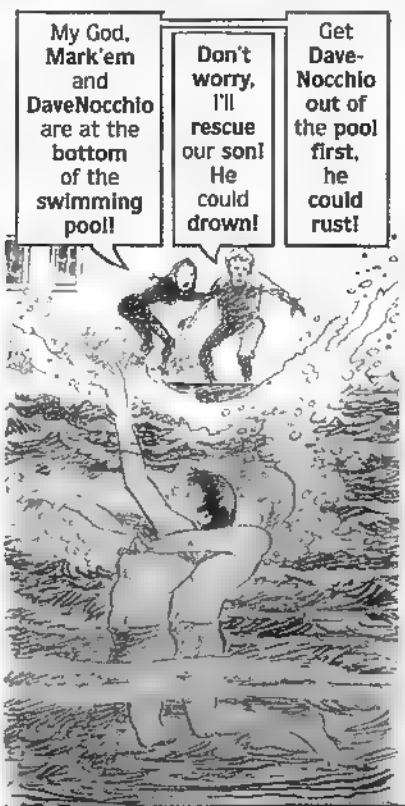
A.I. ABSOLUTE IDIOCY

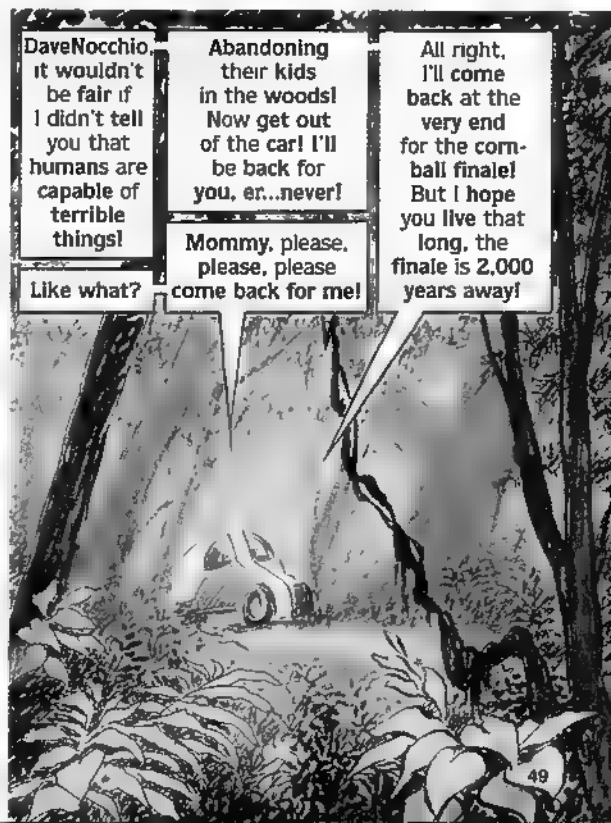
ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER
WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

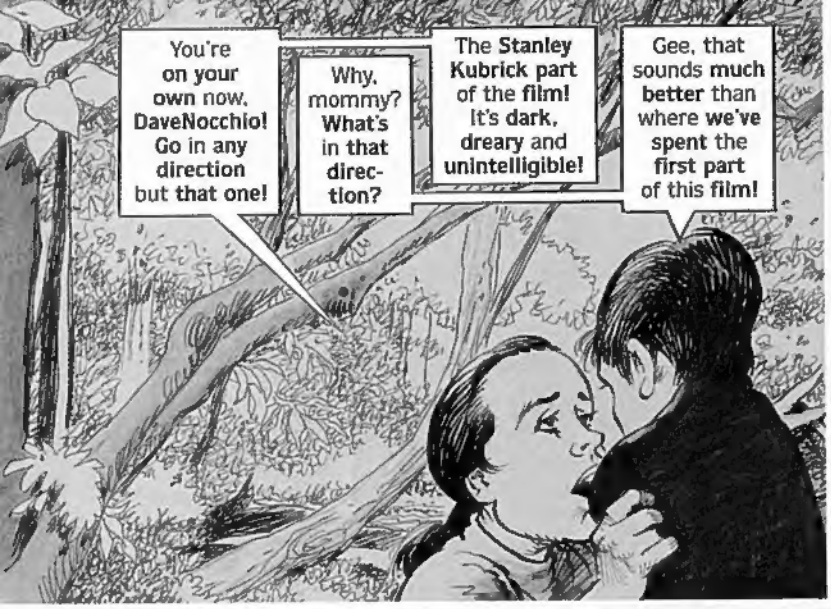

Once I utter the seven imprinting protocol words, the results will be irreversible! If I decide to get rid of DaveNocchio, he'll be returned to CyberCynics for destruction! Yeah, right, and I'm also not supposed to pirate my friend's software or drive while talking on my cell phone! Oh well, here are the seven magic words that will make DaveNocchio just like a real little boy!
Devil Dogs, Goobers, Whoppers, Cheetos, Corn Nuts, Mountain Dew, Slim Jims!
I love you mommy!
That's too bad, DaveNocchio! This is my real son, Mark'em! Some sort of miracle happened at the hospital and he recovered, despite my cutting off his air supply!

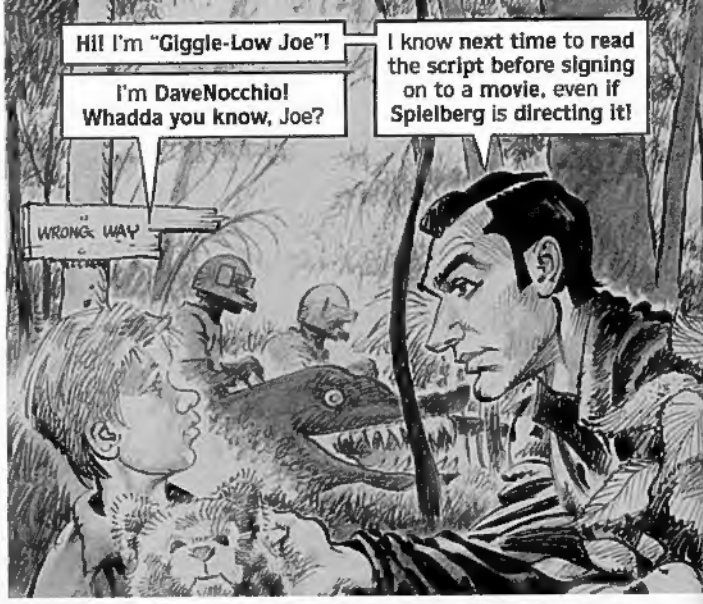

Do you know how to make mommy love you?
No! Please tell me!
Cut off a lock of her hair! That will make her love you just a little more!
I have a better idea! I'll tease the edges, give her blonde highlights and finish it with an almond conditioner!
Are you sure you wouldn't be happy as a Mecha girl? We could call CyberCynics for a conversion kit!

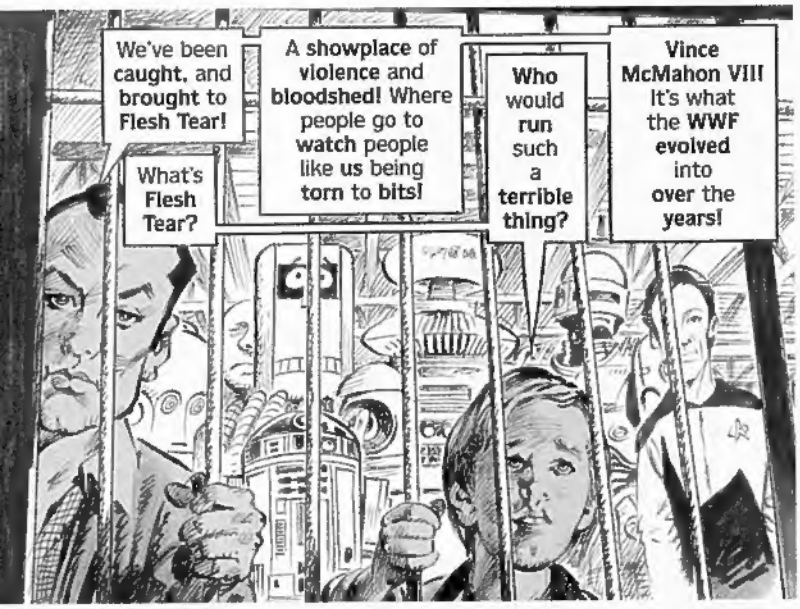



My God, Mark'em and DaveNocchio are at the bottom of the swimming pool!
Don't worry, I'll rescue our son! He could drown!
Get DaveNocchio out of the pool first, he could rust!


DaveNocchio, it wouldn't be fair if I didn't tell you that humans are capable of terrible things!
Like what?
Abandoning their kids in the woods! Now get out of the car! I'll be back for you, er...never!
Mommy, please, please, please come back for me!
All right, I'll come back at the very end for the corn-ball finale! But I hope you live that long, the finale is 2,000 years away!

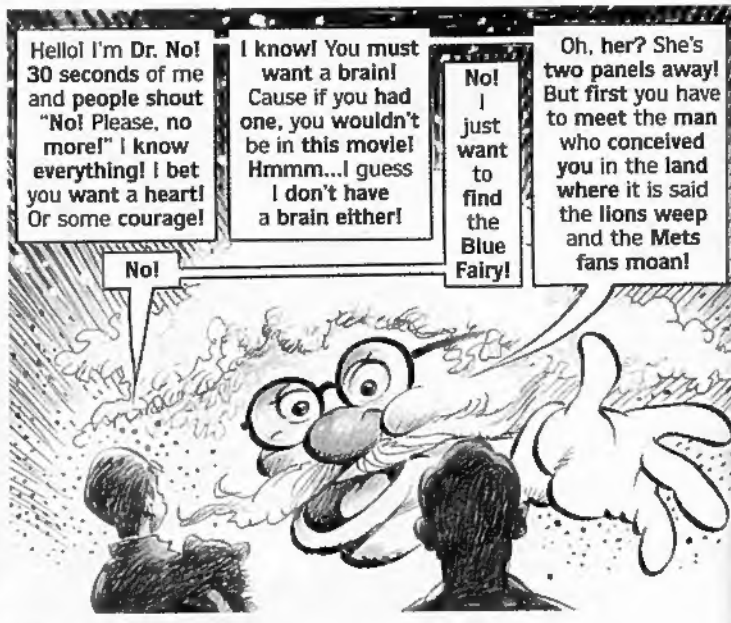

You're on your own now, DaveNocchio! Go in any direction but that one!
Why, mommy? What's in that direction?
The Stanley Kubrick part of the film! It's dark, dreary and unintelligible!
Gee, that sounds much better than where we've spent the first part of this film!


Hi! I'm "Giggle-Low Joe"!
I'm DaveNocchio! Whadda you know, Joe?
I know next time to read the script before signing on to a movie, even if Spielberg is directing it!
WRONG WAY


We've been caught, and brought to Flesh Tear!
What's Flesh Tear?
A showplace of violence and bloodshed! Where people go to watch people like us being torn to bits!
Who would run such a terrible thing?
Vince McMahon VII! It's what the WWF evolved into over the years!

There's a real boy in the cage with the Mechas!
A real boy! Stop this event!
You're stopping this sadistic event out of compassion for the boy?
Compassion? If that's a real boy, I'm stopping this event till everyone pays an extra $20 to see bona-fide bloodshed!

C'mon kid, let's get out of here while we can!
Joe, do you know someone who can help me find the Blue Fairy?
I do! I know a wizard!
How do we get there?
We follow the yellow brick road! If we can steal the Wizard idea from The Wizard Of Oz movie, why not the road?
♪ "We're off to see the wizard, our wonderful wizard is odd!" ♪


Hello! I'm Dr. No! 30 seconds of me and people shout "No! Please, no more!" I know everything! I bet you want a heart! Or some courage!
I know! You must want a brain! Cause if you had one, you wouldn't be in this movie! Hmmm...I guess I don't have a brain either!
No! I just want to find the Blue Fairy!
Oh, her? She's two panels away! But first you have to meet the man who conceived you in the land where it is said the lions weep and the Mets fans moan!
No!

Dr. Hubby! So, they brought me to you! You're the man that made me!
Yes, and you're the greatest Mecha I ever designed! You're unique! You're one-of-a-kind!
Oh yeah, then what are all these other Mechas that look exactly like me doing here?
Hmmm! Clearly I shouldn't have put as much work into your "B.S. Detector" chip! I want the other scientists to see you, but it will take me an hour to round them up — our intercom system stopped working, probably because half of this building is under water!
Joe, is this flooded city a foreshadow of the perils of Global Warming?
No, it's a foreshadow of what awaits New York City if they don't fix those centuries old, rotting water pipes under the streets!
I can see Coney Island, and the Blue Fairy!
Coney Island? I could have sworn we were underwater in Manhattan! Must be the fiercest tides since *The Perfect Storm* to move an entire amusement park here!
DaveNocchio prayed for the Blue Fairy to turn him into a real boy until all the fish died and the ocean froze over! And the audience prayed they would get out before they too died! What seemed like 2,000 years passed, for those on the screen, *and* those watching the screen! Finally his prayer was heard by weird robots of the future, who looked liked beings that we've had "close encounters" with before!
Can you bring my mommy back to life?
We can, but we'll need some DNA from her hair!
Oh, here! I have some of that!
Wow! The lock of hair I cut from my mom's head 2,000 years ago!
Actually, no! It's hair I collected from the bathroom drain 2,000 years ago! I was saving it for my bald patches!
EWW!
Mommy, you're back! Can you help me "feel love"?
Come here, sweet-heart! Put your head on my shoulder!
Ohhhhh, mommy... You're going to hug me tight?
Not really! If you put your head on my shoulder, I'll be able to push that little button on your neck labeled "Off"! I should have thought of this 2,000 years ago!

WHAT HISTORICALLY GREAT TEAM HAS STUMBLED BADLY IN THE LAST YEAR?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

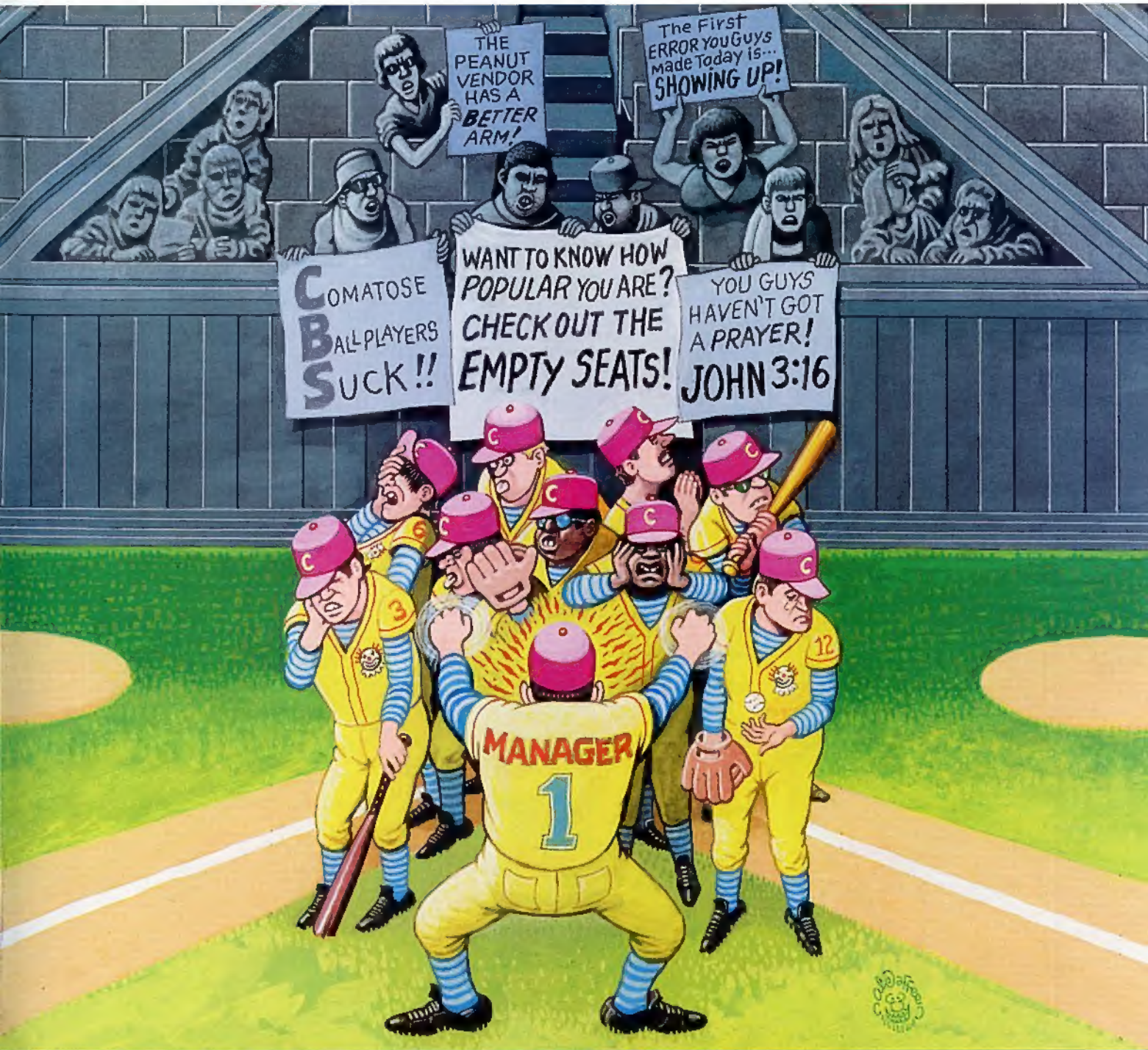
MAD FOLD-IN

The ability to sustain a winning season each year is difficult at best. The players have to stay at the top of their game and the calls have to go in their favor. All it takes is one snag for everything to come tumbling down. This year a historically great team suffered through some very bad times. To find out who this team is, fold page in as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"


THE PEANUT VENDOR HAS A BETTER ARM!
The First ERROR You Guys Made Today is... SHOWING UP!
COMATOSE BALL PLAYERS SUCK!!
WANT TO KNOW HOW POPULAR YOU ARE? CHECK OUT THE EMPTY SEATS!
YOU GUYS HAVEN'T GOT A PRAYER! JOHN 3:16
MANAGER
1

THE SUPPOSED EXCELLENCE OF THIS TEAM IS UNDER EXTREME PRESSURE LATELY. BUT NO ONE THOUGHT THEY COULD LET THEIR IMAGE FALL SO COMPLETELY APART

A

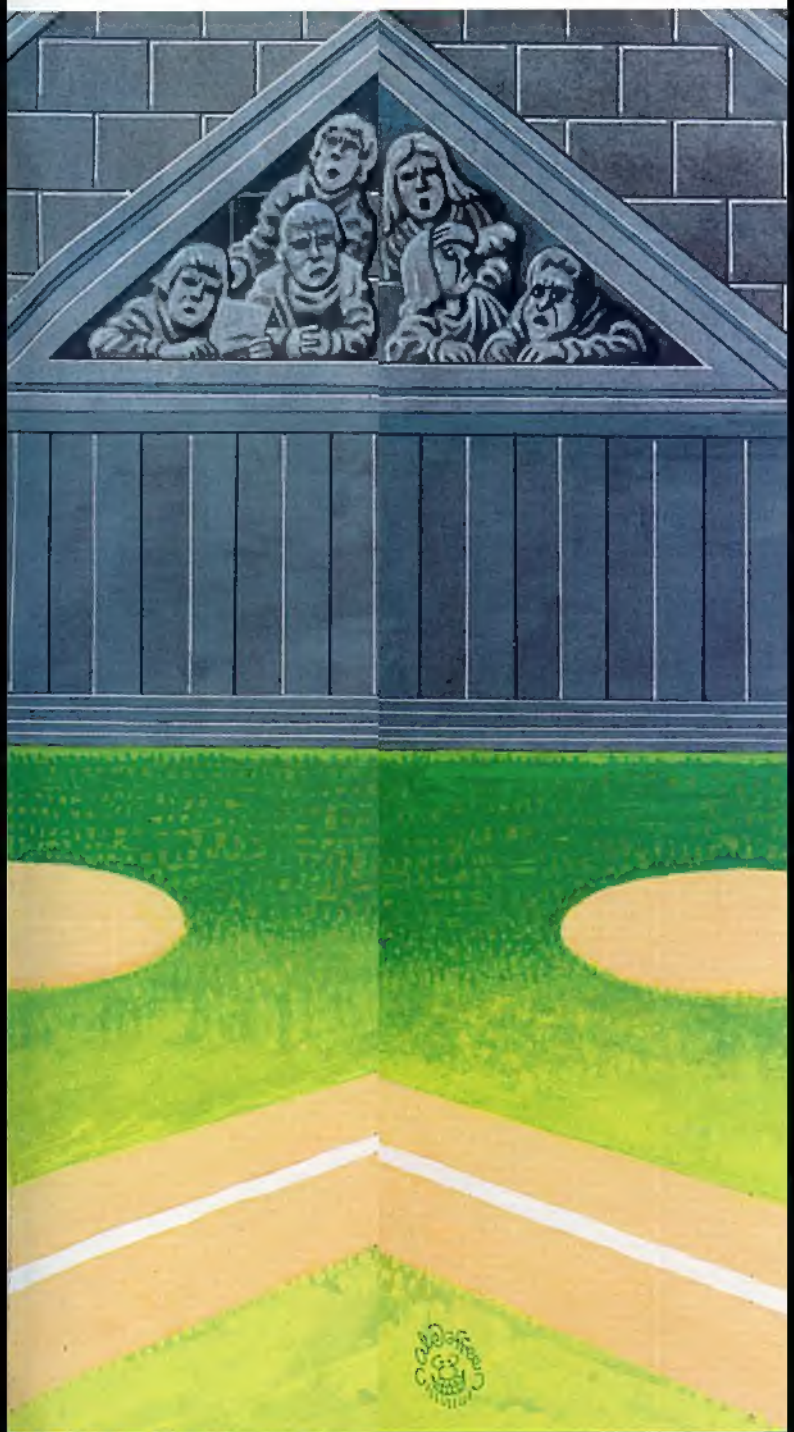
ARTIST AND WRITER: AL JAFFEE

B

WHAT HISTORICALLY GREAT TEAM HAS STUMBLED BADLY IN THE LAST YEAR?

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



THE SUPREME

COURT

A B